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Suspected Hamas **financial** bases closed

Sunday, March 17,

DAVID RUDGE and BILL HUTMAN

TWO suspected Hamas financial bases - the Holy Land Fund in Jerusalem and the Islamic Relief Committee in Nazareth - were shut down yesterday by police and IDF troops as part of the continuing crackdown on Hamas terrorism.

Police also confiscated documents from the Holy Land Fund. which investigators hope will allow them to locate the exact sources of Hamas funding. The government is demanding foreign governments close down those sources, believed to come from

the United States and elsewhere, The foundation, located in the Beit Hanina neighborhood, is the second Hamas-affiliated organization shut down in the capital since the Dizengoff bombing. Po-lice sources said more Hamasaffiliated groups in the city also face closure in the coming days,

"The fund operates as a connection to the National Salvation Committee - to funds in the US that are also affiliated with the Hamas," said the closure order, signed by OC Home Front Commander Shuuel Arad.

The order also stated that the closure was for 14 days, but that Arad would consider signing an order shutting down the office for one year. The Holy Land Find directors were given 96 hours to appeal the closure.

Police said the fund oversaw the allocation of moneys to Ha-mas terrorists and the families of those terrorists killed or imprisoned in attacks.

Several workers were at the fund at the time police issued the. order, and left the first-floor office without incident, a police spokesman said.

In Nazareth, thousands of shekels in cash as well as hundreds of checks, documents, fax machines, computers, discs and other office equipment were confiscated from the office of the Islamic Relief Committee, on suspicion that it was transferring funds to Hamas under the guise of humanitarian aid. The office itself was closed and later welded shut.

The measures were taken in accordance with orders issued by Defense Minister Shimon Peres and OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine.

The raid followed investigations lasting over a year into the activities of the Relief Committee. It also came after the arrest earlier this month of deputy Umm el-Fahm Mayor Dr. Suleiman Agbariah, on allegations of providing funds to families of Ha-

The relief organization is beheved to be responsible for transferring millions of shekels to families of Hamas activists and, in some cases, terrorists.

Sheikh Kamel Hatib, head of the Islamic Movement in the area, stressed that all funds raised by the organization were used to help orphans and the needy.

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He said the action taken yesterday was the "biggest mistake by the government of peace."

Hatib said that without the belp of the organization, 8,500 orphans would be left in dire straits. "Maybe they will go onto the streets, deal in hashish, become thieves or maybe something even worse and become harsh enemies of the State of Israel," he said.







Two-year-old Gregor Maclean holds a bouquet of flowers which he is about to lay outside Dunblane Primary School in Scotland yesterday. A special memorial service was held in the local cathedral four days after Thomas Hamilton shot and killed 16 schoolchildren and their teacher and injured 15 others. Britain observed a minute's silence in memory of the victims. Story Page 4.

Unions renew strike threat over pension plan

THE large unions renewed their threat to strike yesterday, following what they called the Treasury's reneging on the agreements reached during the previous night over the pension plans for some 700,000 workers.

Treasury and union representatives returned to the negotiating table last night in an effort to bridge differences. If nn agreement is reached today, the large unions intend to call an emergency meeting to decide on rescheduling the strike.

The strike planned for yesterday was called off minutes before it was to begin when an oral agreement was reached before dawn between the Treasury officials and union representatives, after negotiating all through Saturday night.

But the crisis flared up again a few hours later when the furious union heads accused the Finance Ministry officials of violating the oral agreements.

In the afternoon, when the understandings were written into a legal agreement by Finance Ministry officials, the union leaders realized that all their gains of the previous night had "evaporated."

MICHAL YUDELMAN

"The Finance Ministry has cheated us once again," the union leaders said, noting that this is what happened the previous time the Histadrut and Treasury reached an agreement over the

pension plan. During the previous night, the Finance Ministry had agreed to amend the clauses in the pension plan which damaged the rights of the veteran workers insured in the pension funds.

The new pension plan was formulated between the Histadrut and the Treasury last year, after the Finance Ministry created a panic concerning the pensinn funds' actuarial deficits and the need to obtain a government guarantee for the pensions of some 700,000 workers.

However, when the plan was published at the end of last year. union leaders found that the Treasury had ignored its commitment to the Histadrut not to reduce veteran workers' pension rights.

"According to the new plan, workers who paid every month for decades for their pension would be

reduced to the poverty line when they [retire], after 35 years or more," Israel Aircraft Industries

chairman Haim Katz said. However, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat said the new plan ensured the workers a safe future.

The unions also found that panic over pension funds' actuarial deficits was mainly artificial, created by false assumptions and calculations of real wages in the state over the next 30 years. An expert financial examination found that most pension funds were not on the verge of collapse at all but

were pretty sound. The Histadrut, which at first objected to the massive strike which would paralyze the economy, recently admitted that the unions' demands were justified and entered into negotiations with the Treasury over ensuring the pension rights of hundreds of thousands of workers.

Meanwhile, Na'amat head Ofra Friedman called for an end to discrimination against women workers, pointing out that women are often paid less and get fewer benefits. Itim contributed to this report.

UN to raise \$100m. for Palestinians

No Hebron pullback until Dief is caught

Palestinians to move freely inside

the territories, but Palestinian

goods can proceed under armed IDF escort from Gaza to the Ash-

THE UN plans to coordinate an emergency three-month \$100 million public works fund for Palestinians living in the territories due to Israeli signals that the territories' closure will continue until after the May 29 elections, officials indicated yesterday.

Furthermore, Israel's planned pullback from Hebron on March 28 will be delayed indefinitely until the Palestinian Authority catches top Hamas fugitives, includ-ing Mohammed Dief, Prime Minister Shimon Peres told the cabinet yesterday.

Apart from continuing the clo-sure, Peres also said that he favors deporting Palestinians linked to suicide bombers and will continue blowing up the houses of families of suicide bombers.

Terje Larsen, UN Special Coordinator for the Territories, confirmed last night that the Palestin-ians and Israelis have approved putting together an emergency fund of \$100 million for public works inside the territories.

"We need to put together an emergency fund of donors now because the situation is at best fragile, and if left unchecked, it will become unpredictably dangerous and unstable in the next few weeks," he declared.

Larsen said that \$40 million of the funds would go to Gaza and \$60 million to the West Bank. He estimated that 20,000 workers from Gaza depend upon Israel for their livelihood, and each worker-feeds-about-10-people. He also estimated that 50,000 Palestinian workers from the West Bank also depend npon work in Israel.

He said that the \$100 million will include an injection of fresh money as well as the rechanneling of existing funds, fueling speculation that this will include ear-marked project assistance.

Meetings will be held on the issue this week, including a key session tomorrow in Gaza which will bring together Palestinians and representatives of the World Bank and key donor countries the US, European Union, Japan. Norway and Israel.

Over the weekend, Israel eased aspects of the three-week closure. Not only will Israel allow foodstuffs into the territories and

Peres informed the cabinet of the fund's formation at yesterday's cabinet meeting. He said Israel will contribute to the fund.

Peres' remark about Hebron

Moreover, despite objections by Meretz ministers and Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair, Peres went on record yesterday as saying that he favored deportations for Palestinians tied to suicide bombers. He gave no details, except to

say it would not include any muocents.

of this, show me that deportation

Aloni questioned why the home of the family of 1994 Hebron killer Baruch Goldstein was not blown up, saying a double-

dod port for export. Regarding the ban on Palestinian employment inside Israel until after the elections, it should be noted that top Labor officials fear more suicide bomhings before the balloting could cause them to slide in the polls, as they did in the wake of four suicide attacks

in recent weeks.

Foreign Minister Ehud Barak
and Interior Minister Haim Ramon have made it clear that they see this election as a referendum on the theme of "separation," dividing Israelis and Palestinians. and view sustained closure as the mehod to achieve this.

Regarding a delay in the pullback from Hebron, Peres declared, "So long as an ill wind emanates from Gaza, and Mohammed Dief plans attacks which could come from Hebron as well, we have a problem. Until Dief and his friends are caught, we will not leave Hebron."

Israel gave the PA a list of 13 wanted Hamas fugitives, but only some have been caught.

Peres insisted that the PA could have apprehended Dief recently in Gaza but did not do so. The New York Times reported on Friday that during the recent wave of saicide bombings, Dief was seen sipping coffee with Col. Mohammed Dahlan, head of the PA Preventive Security apparatus in Gaza and in charge of the crackdown there on Hamas. This could not be confirmed.

was the second condition he imposed for the IDF to pullback from there. Last week he said that a Hebron pullback was contingent upon the PNC amending its 1964 Charter, which calls for Israel's destruction. Palestinian officials said over the weekend that the Charter would be amended before the end of next month.

Both Absorption Minister Yair Tsaban and Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni opposed deportation and binwing up of

homes. "Apart from the morality

and blowing no homes were actu-ally successful as a deterrent,"

standard exists. Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said be favored providing Palestinians with Israeli emer-

gency inventory food supplies, but the cabinet rejected this idea. In the meantime, Palestinians yesterday responded to a statement published by Israelis in the largest selling Palestinian daily, Al-Quds, on March 14. The Israeli statement read, "We sup-port a Palestinian state and the right of Palestinian to earn a living, ... We recognize that the clo-

measure to protect the lives of Israeli children and citizens." To reach a peace agreement, the statement called on Palestinians "to condemn and eject the opponents of peace who are our. enemies and yours.'

sure affects your lives, but is im-

posed on you as a self-defense

Batsheva Tsur adds: Israel was right to impose the: closure on the territories and will; have to lift it very gradually, President Ezer Weizman said

yesterday.
Speaking during a visit to Sderot, with members of the president's Bible group, Weizman added: "Whoever lives in a place where there is a war must understand the danger. It's not convenient to live under curfew, to live under duress - but it's even less convenient

when 60 Israelis are killed. "I hope the Palestinian Authority will not reach the point of starvation. The PA and its Chairman. Arafat should remember that they want to live quietly with us and there is no reason not to do so - they have to get control of those people who are wreaking bavoc

with our lives and theirs. "If we have to close this area. to my deep regret, we will do it, Weizman said. "The Palestinians have to understand that their future has to be linked to our economy and that it is conditional upon their behavior. Instead of bringing workers from all corners of the globe, it is possible to bring them from the territories if the situation is such that we can trust the Palestinian citizens who enter

Israel. We have to understand that they have to earn a living and support their families." Jon Immanuel contributed to

Threat of terror attack still high

BILL HUTMAN

THE Palestinian Police has arrested an Islamic Jihad terrorist who planned a suicide bomb attack last Wednesday at the Tel Aviv central bus station. The police said he was canght with 12kg of explosives.

The arrest, and the identification of the Dizengnff Center bomber as a known Islamic Jihad activist has prompted police to concentrate on arresting other Islamic Jihad activists over the past few days. Gaza police chief Ghazi Jabali

reissued orders yesterday that Palestinian residents must report any information they may have on the whereabouts of illegal arms and wanted men, or face prosecution. Meanwhile, according to a se-

and JON IMMANUEL nior Israeli security source, the

threat of a Hamas terror attack remains serious, despite the crackdown by security forces on the group since the Dizengoff suicide bombing.
"Hamas still bas the capabili-

ty and the will to carry out annther suicide attack," the source The source said there was

concern within the security estahlishment over how long the high alert now in effect can be kept np. For instance, policemen in Jerusalem and other parts of the country are working 12-hour shifts daily and their vacations have been canceled.

"It is very difficult to put in 12 hours day after day with no end in sight," the sonrce said. "But the extra policemen promised by the government should ease the situation.'



PRICE PER PERSON IN DOUBLE ROCKY DEPARTURES ONLY IN MARCH NOT INCLUDE REGISTRATION FEES, TICK, TIPS, VISA

High turnout as NRP elects Knesset candidates other favorite, distributed a brochure full of LIAT COLLINS and Itim NEARLY 100 percent of all National Reli-

gious Party central committee members voted for the party's list of candidates for the Knesset yesterday in Tel Aviv, in a markedly goodnatured polling session. The final results are expected to be announced early this morning. NRP leader Zevulun Hammer, elected in

an earlier procedure, stressed yesterday that he was hoping for a balanced list to include both political moderates and right-of-center, and to preserve the even mix between Ashkenazi and Sephardi. Two women also on the list of potential candidates. Dina Hahn and Viva Sivan, were both convinced they could win realistic slots without the help of preserved spots for women. The NRP rejected the idea of primary elec-

tions as planned by the two major parties, and opted instead to continue the system whereby the members of the party's central committee elect the candidates in what has been called "The Eurovision System."

Each of the approximately 1,000-member

central committee rates seven out of the 17 candidates giving 10 points to the favorite and a point less to the less preferred down the list until the number seven slot is granted four points. The points awarded each candidate are then added up and the leader receives the slot under Hammer.

Although the system avoids the individualism the primary elections entails, it has been criticized as giving an unfair advantage to those candidates with a strong power base. The voting at Beit Hahayal was marked by

competition of the colorful kind. Candidates and their supporters set up stands on the ground floor where they distributed everything from stickers and flowers (Safed candidate David Bukenik! to coffee, cakes and candy (Shmaryahu Ben-Tsur, head of the Religinus Teachers' Union and considered a likely candidate.)

Gush Kanf Council head Zvi Hendel, an-

pictures of himself with various dignitaries under the slogan "Our Man in the Knesset."

Hammer and his current Knesset cancus also greeted visitors to the site. However, most of the older party venerables were conspicuously absent, leaving the arena free for the younger knitted-kippa generation. The party seemed to be keeping all its

options open and has discarded its last election slogan, "The NRP on your right." Hammer appeared to make an effort to attract Meimad members and get rid of the rightwing fanatic label its rivals granted it following the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin. His favorite word was "balanced."

One stand outside Beit Hahayil called for a united religious front with the haredi parties, but this is considered unlikely should a woman be elected to the list. Pundits predict the NRP will try to get back into the government, no matter who heads it, in order to effect change from within.

Netanyahu

hold working

session

SARAH HONIG

MK DAVID Levy will appear

next week as a guest in the Li-

kud'a central committee session,

which is slated to approve the

joint ticket with Levy's Gesher

Likud Chairman Binyamin Ne-

tanayhn invited Levy to the Likud

forum. Levy has boycotted all Li-

kud functions for the past three

years, ever since Netanyahu beat

him in the party's leadership pri-

The invitation was issued at a

cordial meeting between the two

and their aides yesterday after-

noon. After their very public rec-

onciliation last week, the new po-

litical partners gave an encore at

the Tel Aviv Hilton's lobby.

where they smiled broadly over

coffee and butter cookies and then

launched into their first joint

It was Netanyahu's treat - the

After a 20-minute tete-a-tete in

tab was picked up by the Likud.

the lobby's corner, with cameras

clicking from a distance, the two

went into a conference room and

spent another two hours discuss-

They were joined by Likud di-

rector-general Avigdor Lieber-

man and Netanyahu's spokes-

man, Shai Bazak, and on the Levy side by David Appel and Motti

Levy's people described the

meeting as warm and friendly, and said Levy is willing to let by-

gones be bygones. When asked if he can he put the

past behind him, Levy replied,

We are flesh and blood and not

made of steel or wood, but the

past was the price we paid for this true and good cooperation now."

Levy said be and Netanyahn

spoke about "how to coordinate

our efforts, organize the cam-

paign and instruct the activists on

Netanyahu's aides said they

were surprised at just how warm

and pleasant the meeting between

Tsomet has already oknyed the deal with the Likud, and Levy's

Gesher party is expected to do

likewise by convening the party

founders. They will also choose

Gesher's contingent to the next

Barak-Ramon

the one-time arch-rivals was

the grass-roots level."

ing election strategy.

party and with Tsomet.

mary in 1993.

working session.

Army leaflet urges Palestinians to seek peace

THE IDF distributed leaflets written in Arabic throughout Indea and Samaria yesterday, calling on Palestinians to support the peace process and purge Islamic militants from their midst.

But two Palestinian opinion polls - conducted immediately after the Dizengoff center bombing and again eight days later - indicate that support for suicide attacks during the week increased from 15% to 22%.

Asked if they regarded the bombers as "heroes," 14% said yes in the first poll and 30% in the second poll. While 33% supported destroying the infrastructure of Hamas and Islamic Jihad in the first poll, the figure dropped to 19% in the second survey.

The polls were conducted by the Palestinian Center for Peace and Democracy on March 5-6 and March 13-14, using a different group of 800 interviewees in each.

The polls suggest that the closure has radicalized the Palestinian population, which feels that the closure is not a necessary security measure but a vengeful collective punishment.

The IDF leaflet noted that the recent attacks carried out hy Hamas and Islamic Jihad caused the deaths of dozens of innocent people, including Israelis and Palesand JON IMMANUEL

This document calls for uprooting Hamas. It is our joint duty to fight terrorism which harms Israelis and Palestinians equally," said the leaflet, signed by OC Central Command Mai.-Gen. Ilan Biran. "World leaders and the elected members of the Palestinian Authority have condemned the attacks and have declared a war on terrorism. No religion encourages these sort of

Biran explained in the onepage leaflet that it was in this atmosphere of terror that the army had no other choice but to impose a closure on the Palestinians in Judea and Samaria.

"The closure was not meant to harm the economic and social livelihood of the Palestinians. The IDF supports the success of the peace process," the leaflet said. "We will do everything in our power to return lives to their natural paths."

The response from the Palestinian side yesterday did not address the attacks, but reiterated a litany of oppression by Israel over the past century, and the fact that prisoners, settlements and unemployment remain de-

Instead of condemning the attacks it explained them. It reprimanded the Israelis for talking of Hamas as a mutual enemy. "We are one kind people who love peace. But pressure generates explosion and explosions increase misery."

In the Gaza Strip, the IDF be-gan letting in a limited number of Palestinian laborers into the Erez industrial zone. Officials said some 1,000 workers would be allowed in daily.

For now, no Palestinians will be allowed into Israel, said Lt. Avi Gambash, spokesman for the civil administration.

At the Karni freight crossing, the IDF continued letting essential food and supplies into Gaza. But due to stricter security, only some two dozens trucks succeeded yesterday in transporting their produce into the atrip, compared to 400 which used the crossing daily before it was shut.

Gambash said soldiers examine the produce hy hand, and the trucks are gone over with electronic bomh-sniffing equipment. The checks take time, Gambash said. Under new procedures, the Israeli trucks deposit their goods inside the crossing and only after they depart are Palestinian trucks allowed to approach and load.

Court issues injunction against GSS shaking

THE High Court of Justice issued an interim injunction and a showcause order yesterday to prevent the General Security Service from shaking or otherwise mistreating one of the alleged Hamas members picked up in an IDF recent sweep.

The order was issued in response

to a petition hy Adnan Abu Tabana, 30, who was arrested on March 3.

According to the petition, Tabana was not allowed to sleep for 64 hours after his interrogation began on March 10 since bouts of interrogation were interspersed with long

The family

ברוך דיין האמת

With deep sorrow we mourn the passing of

our beloved father, brother, grandfather and

great-grandfather

R' AVRAHAM KOREN 5":

The funeral will take place today, March 18, 1996.

at 2:00 p.m., at Nachalat Yızhak cemetery, Tel Aviv.

A bus will leave Panim Meirot 1, Mattersdorf, Jerusalem

at 12:30 p.m.

To

Hana Wolf

Our deepest sympathies on the

passing of your

Mother 5"

The faculty and students of

MaTaN

mourn the untimely loss of a dear friend and

Board member

MARLENE GREBLER

a woman of charm, dignity, kindness and creativity

With deep sorrow and grave regret

we announce the untimely passing

MARLENE GREBLER

founder of "Yad Rachel"

whose great love for children

was manifest in her years of activity

on behalf of the children of Katamon

We extend our deepest sympathies

to the family

"Yad Rachel"

Directors and Staff

The Management and Staff of

Allalouf & Co. Shipping Ltd.

hours of "waiting," during which he had to sit on a low bench with his hands tied behind his back, his legs chained and a sack over his head.

The petition also claims he was shaken twice during this initial inter-

Supreme Court agrees to hear Elba appeal

EVELYN GORDON

THE Supreme Court agreed yes, terday to hear the state's appeal against the release of Rabbi Ido Elba on parole, and ordered that Elba be kept in prison until the

Elba was sentenced to two racism, attempting to illegally manufacture weapons and interfering with a police investigation. He recently completed two-thirds of his sentence, and has asked the parole board for an early release.

Despite Elba's good behavior in prison and lack of previous convictions, the hoard refused, saying classified police and General Security Service information indicated that he would be a danger to the public if let out. Elba then appealed to the Tel Aviv District Court.

The district court accepted his appeal in a split decision, saying the state had failed to present any up-to-date information showing Elba was still a danger.

The state then asked the Supreme Court for permission to appeal this ruling, saying the requirement for up-to-date information was entirely new and would create a norm whereby parole boards would be obligated to authorize early releases any time the state could not provide new information about the criminal.

Deputy Supreme Court President Shlomo Levine agreed that while the lower court did not reach this conclusion explicitly, the ruling could be interpreted this way, and that would certainly create a legal revolution, in both principle and practice.

Therefore, he concluded, the lower court's verdict does deserve to be reconsidered by the Supreme Court. He ordered that the appeal be heard no later than March 28, and, because of the parole board's finding that Elba was dangerous, he ordered that Elba be kept in prison until the Supreme Court issues its ruling.

'Medical personnel from areas should be let into J'lem'

MEDICAL personnel from the territories should be allowed to go to their jobs in east Jerusalem hospitals despite the closure, a petition to the High Court of Justice demanded yesterday.

The petition was filed by Mokassed Hospital, Physicians for Human Rights, and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel. It noted that the three east Jerusalem hospitals - Mokassed, Augusta Victoria and St. John's have been virtually shut down by Evelyn Gordon

Shahal revealed vesterday....

Some 50 dirt roads and trails used by Palestinians to illegally enter the city are also to be blocked, as part of police measures to improve security in Jerusalem, Shahal told reporters during a tour of areas between the

discussed by police are largely part of the separation plan that Shahal said only awaits funding from the Treasury to be put into been one of the major opponents of the plan, charging it is too

Minister Avraham Shohat,

proved the plan following the recent wave of terror attacks, and "anyone who gets in the way of its implementation is defying a government decision.

be one of the most difficult places to implement the separation plan because of the large Arab population living within the city and the proximity of the territories.

Ya'acov would be rebuilt.

Police sources said the old fence ran about 3 km, largely between Neveh Ya'acov and Dahyat al-Barid, and that once rebuilt will be an important factor

in preventing Palestinians from illegally entering the city.

the city's limits.

separation plan," Shahal said. 'This is something normal...that there are borders. ... Even France and Switzerland which have been at peace for 500 years have a border between them."

and illegal infiltrators.

rivalry threatens Labor's chances

Knesset.

MICHAL YUDELMAN

SENIOR Labor figures made efforts yesterday to allay the tension hetween Foreign Minister Ehud Barak and Interior Minister Haim Ramon regarding the party's election campaign.

However, senior sources said that only the intervention of Prime Minister Shimon Peres can end the rivalry between the two. which some believe could jeopardize Labor's chances of victory.

Sources close to each minister strongly denied the persistent rumors concerning personal rivalry in the primaries and authority clashes in setting the campaign line. Both ministers refused to comment on the matter.

Ramon, who heads Labor's information campaign, was supposedly furious to learn that Barak head of Prime Minister Shimon Peres's personal campaign, had engaged the services of media advisor Yariv Ben-Eliezer and was formulating a separate campaign.

However, Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zvilli said yesterday that the rumors concerning Ramon and Barak are "mostly gossip and little substance. Both Ramon and Barak are wise enough to understand that anyone who puts personal interest above the party's victory and doesn't do everything he can to work together on the campaign will never be forgiven."

Zvilli, who spoke to each minister in an attempt to clear the air. said the tension results from this being the first time that separate elections are being held for the prime minister.

Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal pats one of the dogs being used to patrol the Green Lineareas around the capital.

Fence to separate Jerusalem's Neveh Ya'acov from territories

A NEW security fence is to be built to separate the northern Jerusalem neighborhood of Neveh Ya'acov and nearby Palestinian commonities in the territories, Internal Security Minister Moshe

city and the territories.

The measures and others being effect. The Finance Ministry has

In an attack aimed at Finance

BILL HUTMAN

Shahal said the government ap-

Police have said Jerusalem will

Shahal yesterday again reiterated there would be no fences or other physical boundaries within Jerusalem. However, he said the old, broken down fence along the city's northern border at Neveh

Shahal declined to say whether fences would be built in other border areas between Jerusalem and the territories. He also declined to comment on whether. the separation line would include Ma'aleh Adnmim and Givat Ze'ev 'setflements 'just' outside

"There is no alternative to the

'It is a country's right to keep out those who try to enter without permission," Shahal said. Itim adds:

The IDF yesterday began using dogs in its operations along the Green Line to detect explosives

to bring peace and security to the

entire population; to establish peace with Israel'a neighbors by

the year 2000; and to build a

country "where our values are as

profound as our history and our

economy as modern as the 21st

thanked the olim for coming, say-

ing he felt proud to be among

"heroea and prophets such aa

A Likud-led government, he

said, would not only make securi-

ty the first requirement of peace.

It would aim at bringing two mil-

lion immigrants in the next de-

cade, 200,000 per year. That is

the only way to change from a country which has to beg for do-

nations "to a flourishing econom-

ic power," he said. "It will create

that the party is not only for Rus-

sian speakers, although the con-

Yisrael Ba'aliya activists insist

conditions for more aliya."

vention was run in Russian.

many in this sudience are."

Earlier Netanyahn had

New immigrants party elects Knesset list plan: to bring more immigrants to Israel from all parts of the globe;

YISRAEL BA'ALIYA, the new immigrants party, yesterday held its founding convention in Jerusalem, electing its president, cen-tral committee and party list for the Knesset

Close to 2,000 members of the movement-turned-party crammed into the International Convention Center after each one had received at least 10 recommendations from movement members to be a delegate. Almost all of the delegates hold academic degrees.

"A strong aliya and a strong society go side hy side in building the Zionist enterprise. They should nurture and strengthen each other and for this we have created this party," party founder Natan Sharansky declared.

The party's list was elected as follows: 1. Sharansky; 2. Yuli Edelshtein, an educator from Alon Shvut and former adviser to Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu, aged 38; 3. Michael Nudelman, a lecturer in ecology at Tel Hai college and member of the

THE Supreme Court yesterday

upheld the party registrar's decision to permit MK Shaul Gut- had ruled that the first statement man's Yemin Yisrael to become a was not racisl as long as minority

Ghanem Yassin and Yavin Rocheli, which argued that the Moledet hreakaway was illegal because it incited to racism and the parts of the movement's platform to which the petitioners objected were that Israel belongs to their own lands."

Party registrar Ze'ev Boneh

BATSHEVA TSUR

Kiryat Shmona municipal council: and 4. Yuri Stern, aged 48, former head of the Russian division of the Chambers of Commerce and editor of Russian language economics publications.

There are 35,000 members of the movement, each of whom pays NIS 50 dues per year (half if they are unemployed), a spokesman said. The polls predict that the party, which recently ahsorbed another Russian immigrant list, Aliya, could receive at least four mandates.

"Israel is not good at absorbing immigrants properly and they have been forced to absorb them from the word go," Prime Minister Shimon Peres told the gathering. "I have not come to bring you honey and candies but to tell you the truth, to call on you to be full partners in building a state based on peace and security so that we can ensure our children's

Peres said he had a four-part

EVELYN GORDON

Gutman's Yemin Yisrael gets legal go-ahead

rights are protected, and that the It was ruling on two appeals, by second was not a call for the establishment of a theocracy, since many existing religious parties as well as leading jurists such as former Supreme Court Justice undermined democracy. Among Menahem Elon - supported the idea that Israeli law should be rooted in Jewish law. The third item, Boneh said, does not differ the Jewish people "and it alone"; from the legal Moledet platform, that the country's constitution and since voluntary mutual popuand legal system should be based lation transfers are used successon Jewish law; and that "Israel's fully in many parts of the world, it enemies" should be "returned to is silly to ban all discussion of this

Justices Aharon Barak, Dalia

Dorner and Mishael Cheshin did not explain their decision to reject the petitions. However, they

apparently accepted Boneh's arguments, as well as the state's argument that setting up a party is a fundamental right, which cannot be taken away lightly.

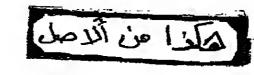
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250,000 bulbs that the Dutch Friends of Israel donated to Israel in December have blossomed into three pictures at the Jerusalem

Egged chairman passed polygraph before arrest

chairman Levine, who was arrested last week on suspicion of receiving millions of shekels in bribes during the 1980s from Mercedes dealers, underwent two lie detector tests even before his arrest, it was revealed yesterday.

He was found to be telling the truth in both examinations, cooducted in two separate authorized polygraph laboratories and initiated by two separate parties.

The lie detector examinations were conducted in mid-February. The first one was initiated by Egged officials, while the second, io a different polygraph laboratory, was initiated by Yediot Aharonot journalist Mordechai Gilat, who on Friday published an investigative report on Levine's alleged part in receiving massive sums in bribes from Mercedes agents here.

In the first examination, according to sources unconnected to Egged, Levinc was even asked if

he or any of his family members had bank accounts abroad. In Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court last week, National Fraud Squad detectives claimed that Levine had deposited huge sums of bribe money in Swiss bank accounts.

The same sources said that according to the polygraph, Levine's replies to all questions were truthful.

Polygraph examinations are deemed around 70 percent to 90 percent reliable, depending on the examiner. Results are not admissihle in court in criminal trials, hut are often used in preliminary investigations to determine if there is justification for a further remand or investigation against a suspect. The police also have a polygraph department.

Egged spokesman Ron Ramer released a statement yesterday emphasizing that the ecoperaove's management fully support

and trust in Shlomo Levine. Details of allegations were available to police several years ago, and were then examined fully and found to be false, Ratner

A suspect in the case, Eli Yaffe, told police four years ago about the alleged offenses and even

offered to turn state's witness. Levine underwent a polygraph examination receotly and was found to be telling the truth," read the statement.

"Egged is cooperating with investigators to reach the truth of the matter... we have nothing to hide and have total faith in the Israeli justice system," it contin-

This is not the first time that interested parties within the cooperative have claimed false allegations against its heads just before [Egged internal] elections to cause internal disputes and to influence the cooperatives elec-

Nimrodi's requests on indictment clarification rejected

REQUESTS hy the defense lawyers of Ma'ariv publisher Ofer Nimrodi to cancel or clarify the indictment on charges of wiretapping and obstructing justice were rejected by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Lawyers Dan Avi-Yitzhak and Yehuda Weinstein had argued at an earlier hearing that charges of commissioning wiretapping (mainly oo senior Yediot Aharonot personnel) were unclear and did not state dates and places, thus making a line of defense impossi-

. Nimrodi, also owner of Hachsharat Hayishov, is charged, together with Ma'ariv's security officer David Ronen, on counts of commissioning wiretapping from private investigators Rafi Friedan and Ya'acov Tsur on phooes, cellular phones and faxes of Yediot personnel and other businessmeo. They are also charged with paying Friedan and Tsur a monthly sum in bush money. Tsur turned state's

RAINE MARCUS

witness in February 1995 against Nimrodi and others in return for \$200,000 and the cancellation of more than 40 charges of wiretap-

Judge George Kara ruled that apart from minor details, including those relating to commissioning the hugging of faxes, the indictment contains all details required hy law and does not need additional clarification. He instructed district attorney representative Rafi Levy to present an amended indictment as soon as possible.

Regarding the exact dates of offenses listed in the charge sheet, Kara ruled that although dates are essential details in indictments, it is not necessary to list them precisely if the time element is not

critical. Avi-Yitzhak and Weinstein had also argued that wherever the indictment mentiooed "Friedan

and Tsur" collectively, the district

attorney should have itemized which of them operated for Nimrodi or Ronen, "or if someooe else acted on behalf of them."

Kara agreed with Levy, who had argued that specific details would be presented during the trial as evidence, including whether Friedan, Tsur or other parties carried out offenses. Regarding charges of hugging

faxes, Kara said details of the faxes and phone conversations would also be revealed by the prosecution during the trial, and the contents would not be published for the time being. Levy has presented the court

with details of Bezeq phone exchange boxes where transmit-ters were planted to bug phone conversations, said Kara, and the list will become an inseparable part of the whole indictment.

The plea hearing has been set for March 31, and sources said Nimrodi and Ronen are expected

Ministry weighs adding folic acid to flour

THE Health Ministry will soon conduct nutri-tional and epidemiological surveys to determine whether there is a need to add folie acid to flour and baked goods to significantly reduce the incidence of spina hifida and other neural-tube defects in fetuses, The Jerusalem Post has learned.

Last week, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued orders that the essential vitamin, which is needed for proper development of the hrain and spinal cord in the growing fetus, be added to all flour and some haked goods.

Folic acid is the synthetic form of the natural vitamin folate, which is common in green vitamins and pulses. The FDA concluded that supplemental folic acid in commonly consumed foodstuffs would increase the amount

of the folic acid in the entire population, especially fertile women. Since the neural tube develops early in pregnancy, it is often too late for women to take folic acid tablets when they learn they are pregnant. So increasing fonc acid levels for all is a good way of preventing these serious congenital defects.

For years, Health Ministry officials have claimed that there is no need to add folic acid to flour and baked goods here. They argued that the Mediterranean diet with lots of green vegetables and pulses makes such a supplement unnecessary.

But the March 9 issue of the British medical journal The Lancet carried a study of women in Northern Ireland and Ireland showing that green vegetables were not enough to increase the level of folic acid in the diet of fertile

Folic acid in its synthetic form was found to be better assimilated by the body than natural folate in food. "We believe that advice to women to consume folate-rich foods as means to optimize folate status is misleading. the University of Ulster researchers concluded. The findings also "support the new FDA ruling that certain grain products in the US must be fortified with folie acid."

Dr. Ra'anan Shamir, head of the ministry's nutrition department, confirmed that a committee of experts has begun to discuss the issue. We will conduct a study to find out exactly how much folate the average Israeli con-

turned up, he said.

Medics to accompany MDA drivers at night

JUDY SIÈGEL

MAGEN David Adom ambulance drivers will be accompanied by medics during the night shift, thanks to an agreement mediated yesterday by Prime Mioister Shimon Peres in which the Treasury will allocate NIS 7.5 millioo for 68 joh slots.

The agreement, discussed by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat and Health Minister Ephraim Soeh, led to the cancellation of plans to apply sanctions and gradually shut down ambulance ser-

Sneb was forced to drop his idea of training soldiers as medics instead of using MDA medics at night, except in the border areas and in the territories. MDA staffers had said they would refuse to go out on calls if soldiers were used as "cheap labor" to replace them within Israel proper. Some 200 MDA workers demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's Office yesterday morning as the ministers discussed

their union's demands. The ministers agreed "in principle" to hire a total of 283 accompanying medics over a period of two years to fill slots during the

Bot MDA workers' union chief Eli Ben Khassous was tot opii mistic about its implementation: many MDA medics bad been fired in recent years due to cuthacks, and the union has been struggliog for six years for all ambulances to have a driver/medic and accompanying medic.

The ministers will discuss the union's demands for special readiness pay only next week. The union points out that hospital workers, police, firefighters and others all receive such duty pay, hut MDA workers have been excluded. As a result of the goverument's failure to decide in their favor, ambulance drivers will not take their vehicles home at night in order to respond quickly to emergencies but will instead leave them at MDA stations, the union said. Answering emergencies from home will not be binding, but only voluntary, Ben-Khassous added.

Alcoholism in-patient center closes

ESTHER HECHT

THE staff at the country's only in-patient alcoholism treatment center has been forced to take leave, and 18 of the 27 patients have been sent home according to Dr. Sergio Marchevsky, who heads the Ramat Gan facility.

Nine patients, five of whom are, homeless, have asked to remain at the center until tomorrow, but only a watchman will remain to look after them, he said. The Israeli Society for the

Prevention of Alcoholism, which operates the center, announced 10 days ago it would have to close because the funds allocated hy the Health Ministry are far lower than the operating costs. Until the center's closure, it

offered a two-week detoxification program and a threemonth treatment program. Yesterday, Marchevsky called a meeting of heads of drug-abuse

treatment centers, in hopes of

The Health Ministry said it has no intention of closing the Ramat Gan center, and that if the society can no longer run it, the ministry will operate it through the Israel Public Health Association,

getting support, but only one

"There are 80 people on our

waiting list, and the watchman will be calling them to tell them

not to wait any longer - if Bezen doesn't cut off the line, as it has

threatened to do," Marchevsky

a voluntary organization. Shunel Pressburger, who heads the society, said his only interest is that the center remain open and the ministry never offered him this option. He said he had asked Health Minister Ephraim Sneh to appoint a committee to check the society's

books to see whether it had mismanaged the funds.

Court issues injunction against poisoning cats

LIAT COLLINS

THE cats at Kihbutz Bahan in Emek Hefer, won a reprieve yes-terday when a Kfar Sava Magistrates Court issued a tempo-Magistrates Court issued a temporary injunction halting the mass poisoning that had been scheduled for tonight. The injunction was granted to the Cats Welfare Society, which noted that such poisonings are illegal under the April Carelly to April 18 Law Anti-Cruelty to Animals Law. Although the injunction is temporary, the time period wasn't speci-

"Mass poisoning is not only cruel, it's ineffective," society chairwoman Rivi Mayer said yesterday. "Nature abhors a vacuum, and if you poison these cats more will just move in to take their place, and in a couple of mooths you'll be back to where you start-

Both Mayer and officials at the Environment Ministry have offered to help the kibburz carry out a large-scale program of neu-tering stray cats to cootrol the feline population without killing animals. The eats are also a natural check against an explosion in the rodent population, Mayer said. The kibbutz elaimed the poison-

ing is the only method to get rid of the cats, whose numbers have grown recently. According to Emek Hefer Regional Council Head Nahum Itzkovitch, the number of cats seeking food on the kibbutz has grown, since the closure on the territories has meant people throw out less garbage there and the cats are finding it more difficult find pickings. Neutering the cats is oot practical for the kibbutz, Itzkovitch said.

He said that even in Tel Aviv, which has an ongoing program to control the feline population by natural methods, only a few hun-dred of the thousands of unowned cats had been caught and operated

The kibbutz apparently also is concerned about the threat of

Environment Ministry and the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel managed to halt a

repeatedly issued warnings to local councils saying animal poi-

NEWS IN BRIEF

More students matriculate

The number of high school students who obtained matriculation certificates (bagrut) increased to 38 percent last year, compared Minister Amnoo Rubinstein announced yesterday.

Rubiustein said be believed 50 percent of high-school students would obtain a certificate by the year 2000, with 33 percent continuing for a bachelor's degree. He said colleges in the country would soon be able to accept 50,000 students to absorb the increase in the number of those obtaining matriculation certificates. *Itim*

Performance prizes to be awarded tonight Arts and Science Minister Shulamit Aloni will present the 1995 Arts and Culture Authority Israeli Music Performance Prizes tonight at the Tel Aviv Museum.

The prizes are to go to the Kibhutz Chamber Orchestra conducted by Mordecai Rechtman for its performance of Michael Wolpe's Concerto for Recorder and Orchestra, the Ihud Choir for Befe at Hakfar (Edge of the Village) by Emanuel Zamir, pianist Aloo Goldstein for Rashuyot (Authorities) by Ben-Zion Orgad, and Oded Pintos' oboe quintet for Marc Kpitman's Conversations. Helen Kaye

CNN most popular foreign news here CNN International's 24-hour news network outranks other foreign

eable news by close to 60 percent.

A Gallup poll conducted in December 1995 showed that 59.3% of those polled say CNNI offers the best non-Israeli news coverage.

Postal workers who are robbed to get therapy Postal branch workers who are robbed will get immediate psychological relief under a program between the Postal Authority and the Hadassah Vocational Counseling Institute. After an armed robber leaves the premises, vocational and organization psychologists from the institute will go to the branch and meet with managers and clerks to dehrief them. Judy Siegel

Mayors' Conference opens in Jerusalem Mayors of 50 cities from around the world are arriving here today for an international mayors conference.

During the five-day conference organized by Mayor Ehud Olmert, mayors from places such as Sydney. Amsterdam and Toledo are to meet with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and President Ezer Weizman and tour the Old City, Neveh Ya'acov, and the health center in Sheikh Jarrah.

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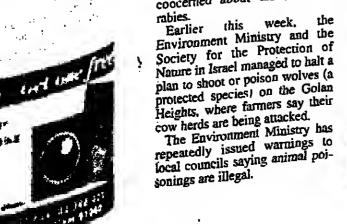
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LAGOS (Reuter) - Up to four people were killed in violence during Nigeria's municipal polls, the first step in the politically-troubled nation's latest program of transition to democracy, newspapers said yesterday.

The independent Guardian reported that a voter was stabbed to death and several others injured in the northern Kaduna state during clashes between youths and voters at a polling station.

Other newspapers said up to four people died in the fracas unleashed when a large number of underaged people tried to vote in the poll and that a number of people were arrested.

"The problem was caused by unemployed youths who had nothing to do than cause trouble, Kaduna state military administra-tor Colonel Lawal Isa told

Newspapers said the electoral commission was overwhelmed hy the huge nationwide turnout in the poll - the first since the army annulled a presidential election in June 1993, aborting a previous program for transition to democ-

racy.

Defying the call for a boycott hy pro-democracy activists, Nigerians turned out massively to vote at heavily-guarded polling

The estimated 50,000 policemen deployed across Nigeria to maintain security during polling proved inadequate, newspapers

But Nigerian officials, bouyed by the council poll, have said the country is now on the way to democracy.

It has been a success everywhere and we are right on the path to democracy." Sumner Dagogo-Jack, chairman of the National Electoral Commission of Nigeria. said after touring voting centres in the capital Ahuja and neighboring Plateau state.

Nigeia, Africa's most populous nation with nearly 90 million people, has been in turmoil since the 1993 poll annulment.

General Sant Abacha, who seized power three months later in the chaos that ensued, armounced a program last October to hand over to a democratically-elected government in 1998.



Chinese MiG21 figthter jets carry out live-fire execises near an unidentified island close to Taiwan on Saturday.

Taiwanese flee outlying islands

ON the eve of a new round of Chinese war games, a ship jammed with Taiwanese and their belongings evacuated more than half the o tiny islands near China's populatio: coast yesterday.

The ship carried 300 people, hut 100 who couldn't fit on hoard had to remain in the Chu Islands, just 18 km from the planned exercises, Taiwanese news reports said. Officials said another 100 people also chose to stay in the

The evacuation came a day after China denied US claims it has promised not to invade Taiwan, ruled by the rival Nationalists since they fled defeat in a civil war on the mainland

Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui issued his sternest ever condemnation of China yester-day, calling its war games "state terrorism" as China prepared to turn up the heat.

The 73-year-old Lee, speaking to 5,000 flagwaving supporters at a campaign rally yester-day, said the campaign of intimidation has hackfired hy spreading disgust among the Chinese people.

He spoke outside a memorial hall in Taipei for Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the early 20th century revolutionary revered by both the Communists and Nationalists as the founder of modern

Lee, speaking at a forum for the island's four presidential candidates, said he was quoting a local professor, Yu Yin-shih, in saying China was using terror tactics.

"Regarding communist China's exercises... Professor Yu has made a very good analysis, saying that communist China conducted state temorism toward Taiwan by using missile tests

News agencies TAIPEI

just before the elections." Lee said in a televised speech yesterday.

"Its power came from guns and it relies on guns to maintain its power, and the higgest threat to its power is the democratic direct election across the Taiwan Strait." Lee

China's war games are scheduled to last until after Taiwan's presidential election next Saturday. They are intended to drive voters away from President Lee, whom China accuses of dropping their shared goal of reunificu-

China said yesterday the military exercises

were working.
"People on the island realize even more that Lee Teng-hui himself created the tensions in the Taiwan Straits," the official Xinhua News

However, Lee's standing in opinion polls has changed little since the start of the crisis, and some opposition supporters are even expected to vote for him as a gesture of deliance at

China regards Taiwan as a renegade province, and said yesterday that it reserves the right to use force if the island declares independence. The two sides have flourishing trade ties, but Taiwan refuses to discuss reunification until China starts democratizing.

China has been making menacing military moves since Lee visited the United States last June, which Chinese leaders took as proof that .Taiwan was intent on going independent. Taiwan's China Times said China may use n

l'omegranate

high tide today to practice beach landings on Pingtan Island, near the Chu Islands. The newspaper report yesterday quoted unidentified military officials.

The Chu islets and other Taiwanese islands he within a few miles of the Chinese coast.

"The exercises are so close to East Chu islet and everyone feels uneasy," an unidentified man from Chu told television station TVBS after being evacuated to nearby Matsu Island. Asked where her family was going, one young girl said, 'To Taiwan, to take refuge.'

Shops and schools on Massu are closed, Tawainese TV reported. It said hotels there and on the coastal island of Quemoy farther south are filled with worried parents and girlfriends of draftees serving on the islands.

Xinhua, the Chinese news agency, noted the "chaos" that the tensions have caused in Taiwan: property prices have fallen, depositors are cleaning out bank accounts and some people are fleeing.

Despite the satisfied tone of the commentary. China is also trying to reassure Taiwanese investors their mainland husinesses are secure.

"No matter what happens, the legal rights of Taiwan business people in the Chinese mainland will always be protected, and trade across the straits is encouraged," An Min, a senior foreign trade official, was quoted in the state-

increase was only half that of overall trade

In addition, it said, Taiwanese investment in the mainland fell 11.4 percent last year to \$3

run Business Weekly as saying. China's Business Weekly said China-Taiwan trade rose in 1995 to \$18 billion, but the rate of BELFAST (Reuter) - The IRA's May as a stepping-stone to round-Sinn Fein political arm reiterated yesterday its opposition to

Britain's proposal to hold elections in Northern Ireland as a tire-lude to peace talks. Chief Sinn Fein strategist Martin McGuinness said that if

London set up a regional assem-bly, pro-British Unionists could use it to thwart progress in peace Unionist supporters of the province's link with Britain have adv denounced Anglo-Irish

plans for June talks, accusing Britain of relaxing demands for urgent guerrilla disarmament to appease republicans.

After 10 days of discussions with political parties, except Sinn Fein, Britain is shortly to announce plans for an election in

table negotiations.

The most worrying aspect of all of this would be the establish: menticoffician elected body sit Stormont (Belfast). This is something which is complete anathema to nationalists and republicans." McGuinness said.

Britain says it does not plan a return to an old-style Protestantdominated regional parliament. but participants in all-party talks on Northern Irelande's future must be shown to have democratic legitimacy.
Unionists say the IRA must give

up its arms before they will negotiate with Sinn Fein. They are angry at Anglo-Irish proposals that the question of disarmament should be. part of a broad agenda for talks, not: the first item.

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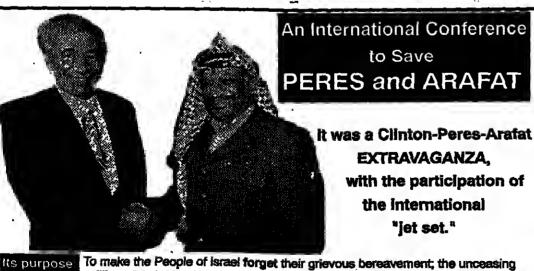
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spilling of their blood; and to make believe that something effective is being done. To concest the collapse of the Peres concept that Arafat will wage our war against Arab terrorism. To start off the israeli election campaign on the LEFT foot.

To blindly continue, on and on, with this nightmarish "peace."

A fig leaf named Clinton can't cover Peres's tragic mistake of relying on Arafat for Israel's security. It was Arafat who prevented the extradition of Ahmad Abu Warda, the dispatcher of human bombs, by means of a lightning mock-trial.

It was Arafat who smuggled in terrorists and explosives. It was Arafat who ordered a 21-gun salute in honor of the "Engineer."

it was Arafat, the deceitful and corrupt Godfather of Terrorism, who starred with Peres at the farcical "International Counter-Terrorism Conference"||

Citizens of Israel: The Peres-Arafat "WAR Against Terrorism" is a hosx The arrests are a mere bluff. Closure is no solution but a deceitful diversion.

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Russia unveils new Concordsky MOSCOW (AP) - Russia's supersonic passenger jet - the Concordsky

 is making a comeback. The latest version of the needle-nosed Tu-144 aircraft was unveiled

air trials with the participation of NASA. The program aims at developing supersonic civil transport by the turn of the century. The Tu-144 was the world's first supersonic passenger plane, making its

debut in December 1968, just days before the maiden flight of Concorde.

The Soviet aircraft was dubbed "Concordsky" by Westerners because it so-closely resembled the Concorde.

The SST program was shelved after the jetliners proved to be economically inefficient and one of them crashed at the 1973 Paris Air Show.

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Einstein and space objects are relative

Sinn Fein warns

against elected

forum in Ulster

NEW YORK (AP) - Albert Einstein's manuscript with the Special Theory of Relativity left the auction block unbought, demonstrating that more than time is relative.

Sotheby's estimate for the 72-page paper, handwritten in German in 1912, was \$4 million to \$6 million; it sold to a private American collector in 1987 for \$1.2m.

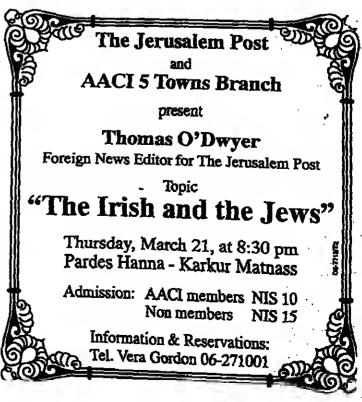
But the sales room was silent on Saturday as auctioneer David Redden started the hidding at \$2 million. He gave up at \$3.3 million. There was no bid above the secret minimum price set by the seller and

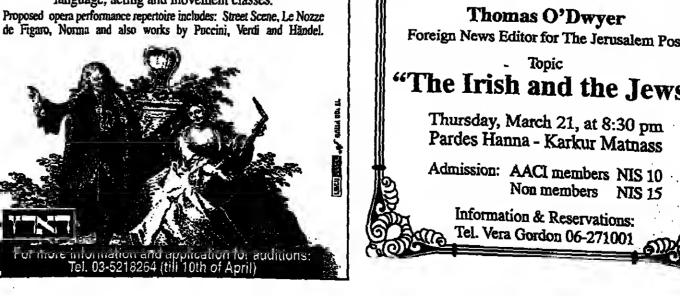
Earlier in the day, a dog space suit fetched \$22,000 and a hunk of Sputnik I sold for \$14,000 at an auction of space memorabilia from the former Soviet Union. But a space capsule got no takers. "What on earth would you do with."

it?" wondered George Glazer, a globe dealer at the sale. More than 400 lots were for sale; sellers included cosmonauts, engineers and companies that designed and produced space gear. Among the hids:

The 1959 dog space suit, which was sold for well above its presale estimate of \$10,000 to \$15,000. Three anonymous telephone bidders had panted for it.

The fragment of an oxygen tank from Sputnik I, launched on Oct. 4,-1957. Its \$14,000 hammer price eclipsed the estimate of \$1,000 to \$1,500. It was the property of cosmonaut Georgy Grechko, the engineer who retrieved it.





Britain silent for Dunblane dead times we had with our friends." .:

DUNBLANE, Scotland (AP) - A minute's silence fell across Britain yesterday as the nation honored 16 kindergarten children and their teacher massacred by a local gunman in this small Scottish town. Television and radio networks

stopped broadcasting at 9.30, shoppers stood silent in supermarkets. At London's Heathrow Airport and other hig airports, planes due to depart delayed starting up engines, and passengers stood in silence at the four terminals. Silence fell, too, at major train

Television screens silently rolled smiling pictures of the 11 girls and five boys slain with teacher Gwenne Mayor in the gymnasium of Dunblane's eleschool. Thomas mentary Hamilton, a resentful loner and suspected pedophile, then killed himself.

In Dunhlane, a solemn congregarion, including parents of some of the murdered children, packed the beautiful 13th century cathedral for a service. A thousand others, heads bowed and some weeping, stood outside in cold, overcast weather.

Young children stayed for the first part of the service which nor-mally would marked Mother's Day yesterday.

They were led out to Sunday school after the Presbyterian minister asked them to bold hands. while he read out the names of the dead children.

"Even grown-ups don't under-stand why this has happened," the Rev. Colin McIntosh told them. "It is not wrong to cry ... it is not wrong to remember all the good

In the small Roman Catholic Church, a swollen congregation of 400 joined in praying, "As we moun their passing from this life, comfort us with the knowledge that they live now in your loving,

embrace." The queen and her daughter then went to the school gate to law, bouquets. Hundreds of floral tributes from around the world have. been arriving day and night at the,

The royal party then traveled to the infirmary, where five of the injured children and two teachers are recovering.

The school is to reopen Friday after a week of funerals beginning today. The first will be for two 5year-olds who were best friends, Emma Crozier and Joanna Ross.

"They were bright little girls, wee sparklers, little butions," said the Rev. William Gilmour, minister at the church both children attended. "Everyone in the church knew them and knew their famil-

Teacher Gwenne Mayor, 45, will be buried Thursday.

The massacre has raised ques tions about how Hamilton, a lonerwho complained of being branded a pedophile, was licensed by police to own four semiautomatic handguns under Britain's strict

gun-control laws. Hamilton was angered by attempts hy authorities to prevent him from running boys, clubs. He was widely regarded locally as unstable.

Five days before the massacre, Hamilton wrote a rambling letter to the queen denying he was a

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picture

very well, but they [EMI] didn't

come up with a proper proposal of

exploring the repertoire in depth,

so we decided to try our own and

now we have 40 discs on our own

label." Phillips says. "Now this I

do call exploring the repertoire in

The inclusion of unfamiliar

names such as John Sheppard,

Tomas Luis de Victoria, Walter

Lamb, and William Cornysh in

the repertoire hasn't limited the

invited to appear in early-music

festivals. Now we are performing

in non-specialized musical festi-

When we started, we were

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New York audience hooted, stamped its feet, lit matches, linked arms, and called out requests. The Led Zeppelin reunion tour? Hardly.

The cause of this rapture was the Tallis Scholars, a Renaissance sacred vocal music ensemble named after an English composer who has been dead for 400 years. Pounder and music director Peter Phillips notes that while the

ensemble draws regular classical music audiences, it also appeals to much younger listeners. "They say that this kind of music takes them out of themselves; it could be said to be

uplifting," he said in a phone interview from his London home. "It takes them out of their daily life and transports them to another world. Indeed that's what sound, and no other sense, can do for

The Tallis Scholars, who made

their local debut in 1989, are a bargain-price label and they sold returning for two concerts later this month, with a combination of English and Italian Renaissance music including Allegri's Miserere, which has become one of the group's most popular hits.

Twenty-three years ago, when the then-20-years-old Phillips assembled the Tallis Scholars in Oxford, it was a huge risk. Yet out of that leap has come not only one of the most sought-after vocal ensembles in the world, but his own label.

He created Gimell Records because no existing record company was willing to give his group

"We did two discs with EMI on

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Making Renaissance all the rage

And, after only three years, Gimell became a very profitable enterprise.

"The birth of the compact disc made us a viable operation," Phillips explains. "Now every new record sells more than the previous one, and there is definitely enough repertoire yet to be recorded and performed. Palestrina alone wrote over 100 masses, it's a huge amount of material."

Phillips says he prefers to stick with sacred music.

"If we did secular music of that period we would have to turn one voice to a part and this would turn us into a solo ensemble and I

wouldn't have the same raw material to work with," he says. "The actual melodic lines of the sacred and secular music of the time are differently constructed and require different technique, that's probably how the composers conceived of the difference between

religious and domestic music at

Though the Tallis Scholars' entire repertoire was written as church music, the group does not perform it in religious settings.

the time."

We consider ourselves to be a professional concert-giving organization, we were never a religious foundation," Phillips says. We take the music completely out of context, we are treating it as

That said, Phillips adamantly helieves that "we are quite authentic. I take great interest in what scholars are saying about things, some things in this field are very complicated. But I do know the rules and i don't feel free to break them if it's in the interest of making a performance more lively for a modern audi-

Phillips admits that he does have an occasional urge to open a Beethoven score and conduct a

"But I decided that in order to make a reputation you have to specialize and I stuck to it," he says. "I know many conductors

moved on, but I'll stick with the Renaissance, I give lectures and I write about that, and I now know that there is a bigger audience for it, once they find it's approachable."

In addition to several books on Renaissance music, Phillips writes a music and cricket column

for The Specialor. "We [the English side] are hopeless now, so I baven't done a lot [on cricket] recently. If we start winning again, I might do that," he says. "Neville Cardus was a famous music critic who also wrote about cricket and my editor

carnate him, but I don't think I The Tallis Scholars will appear at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center on March 28 and at Kihbntz Mizra the following

wondered whether I could rein-

So you want to be in pictures?

GET SHORTY

Scott Frank, from the novel by Elmon Leonard, 105 minutes. Hebrew title: Tios e

... Rene Russo

The petty mobsters, horrorflick producers and Bmovie starlets who populate Elmore Leonard's bestselling 1990 novel, Get Shorty, like nothing better than to talk. And talk and talk. Part crime caper, part Hollywood satire, the book is filled with Leonard's trademark macho give and take, extended riffs that blend the cap-gun staccato of real street expression with farce of the kookiest order.

In many ways, the whole garrulous thing seems designed for the screen. The book, after all, is a send-up of the movie business, and at several points the novel's dialogue actually evolves into a literal screenplay, with the characters schmoozing in scripted form and the third-person narration thinned to a minimum.

So what's strangest about Barry Sonnenfeld's faithful film version of the breezy paperback is that it's quite hard to follow. Adapted hy Tony Frank, the movie is so hard to follow that, as one watches, one begins to appreciate better the very literary quality of Leonard's hook. The hip vernacular that his characters adopt may read like spoken English, casually dictated, but that's part of its hidden artifice.

Transferring his wham-ham conversational rhythms to the screen - and into the mouths of live people - isn't as simple as it first appears.

Which is not to say that Sonnenfeld's picture is a total bust. Though the pretzel twists

and corkscrew turns of the outlandish pulp plot are baffling in movie form, Get Shorty is still a kick. Its hright, comic-book look hlends oddly but well with its black sense of humor, and some of the actors (Danny DeVito and Gene Hackman, in particular) are wrier than they've ever been. The briskly stylized dialogue may make little sense at the story-line level, but - in an era of blandly predictable family dramas and anti-literate action movies - such

rococo cinematic paner is genuinely refreshing.

reduced to a neat one-liner, about a smooth Miami loan shark named Chili Palmer (John Travolia) who comes to Los Angeles to collect on a debt and winds up producing movies. (The joke, of course, is that Chili, a crook, is more honest and business-savvy than any of the selfabsorbed, bumbling "profession-

als" around him.t Along the way, Chili hooks up with Harry Zimm (Hackman), the sad-sack producer of such horror hits as Grotesque, Part Two and Slime Creatures. Zimm's girlfriend. Karen Flores (Rene blonde victim in most of these masterpieces, while her ex-hushand, Martin Weir (DeVito), has hecome a major player, an Academy-Award winning leading

The Shorty of the title, Weir is perhaps the film's most broadly comic character, meant to represent everything pumped-up and posturing that Chili is not. His latest blockbuster is Napoleon, of all things, and when Chili and Karen approach him about the chance of his starring in a picture they want to produce (the particuhilarious, hull's-eye impersonation of a superstar, taking himself far too seriously as he Prepares To Act.

For better and worse, Get Shorty is not so far from Sonnenfeld's previous work on films like The Addams Family and Addams Family Values. For better, he's able to retain the snappy pace and hyperbolic visual humor of those cartoonish

For worse, Get Shorty suffers from the gimmicky, short-attention-span feel of a movie for children. The gags follow in rapid subtler, drier, more extended themes at work in Leonard's novel. The book has a centripetal tug that the film lacks.

(Linda Chen)

But Travolta is back, in top, fleshy form. Even more suavely than he did in Pulp Fiction, he wears black leather and an amused half smile, and manages the neat trick of conveying seediness with class. Despite the toocool posturing that often surrounds him, Travolta - like Chili - continues to operate sincerely, and that's what gives him power. There's something straight and guileless about the actor. His gentle lope, his sultry stare, his jowly facial expressions - all add up to an attitude that seems, remarkably, to be at once put-on and

Stage set for Arab theater

HELEN KAYE

fter seven months of hureaucratic wrangling Over its financing, the Arab Theater in Israel is finally a reality. Its first production, The King Is the King by noted Syrian playwright Saadallah Wanouss, will have a gala premiere at the Haifa Theater on March 31.

Declaring that a democracy is measured by its attitude towards individuals and minorines. Arts and Science Minister Shulamit Aloni said at last week's press conference that ATL some two years in the making, partially redresses "cultural discrimination towards the Arab sector that has gone on far too long."

Although Aloni and the Treasury approved an initial budget of NIS 2 million for the theater, the money could not be made available because of a law which prevents the disbursement of govern ment funding to a public body unless it has existed for at least two years. A solution to this Catch-22 was found via an agreement with the fiscal administration of the Haifa Theater.

ATI's artistic director is Haifa Theater actor Ynssuf Abu Warda. The company comprises most of the Israeli-Arab actors known to the Jewish public from stage and screen, such as Ghassan Abbas Muhammad Bakri, Selim Dau. Makram Khouri, and Salwa Nakura.

"There is a place in [Israel's] cultural mosaic for the expression of Arab cultural life," Ahu Warda said, adding that the new theater wants to attract Hebrew as well as Arabic speaking audiences and that all ATI productions will have simultaneous

translations into Hebrew. The Arab actors in the new company, he added, will continue to work in the Hebrew theater "because if there's something good that's happened in Jewish Arab relations, it's been in culture. We hope that the establishment of ATI will encourage more Israeli

Arabs to go into theater." The King Is the King, directed by Makram Khouri, is about a king who makes a beggar king for a day hut, according to Abu Warda, the play really deals with the roots of tyranny in Arab society. The other two productions this season are The Winds Stay Home, a two-actor play about Jewish Arab relations by Emile Habibi and Death of an Anarchist by Dario Fo.

ATI currently has no home theater, but the Haifa municipality is making municipal halls and offices available for a nominal fee.

ADINA HOFFMAN

Gene Hackman stars as B-movie producer Harry Zimm, who hooks up with a loan-shark-turned filmmaker, played by super-suave John Travolta.

For all its narrative convolulars of which are too knotted to go Russo), plays the screaming tion, the film can actually be into here), DeVito delivers a succession, and often obscure the Do-it-yourself dance-theater tormed

OOKING like a wayward saint on an icon, Dimitri "Dima" Tulpanov walks in wearing a scruffy blond wig, "so I can get used to it," he says, smiling angelically.
"It's for a new piece he's work-

ing on," offers blue-eyed Dave Tichnell, who could double as a marine in a recruiting poster.
Actor and dancer Tulpanov, 29, and dancer Tichnell, 28, are half of Klipa, a new, intriguing, and

penniless dance theater which the

sensibly adopted. The other half is artist Yariv Friedman and dancer Idit Herman.

"Each of gives whatever talents we have, and each of us has so many colors inside himself. We don't limit ourselves," says Tichnell, who danced with the Batsheva company until last summer. "Spontaneily is a very important ingredient of what we

They do an hour or so of short pieces - 15 of them - from the poetic, minimalistic Television, in HELEN KAYE

which Tulpanov and Herman seem like shy creatures from another existence, to the daftly comic Giant, in which Friedman and Tichnell build an impressive structure just so Friedman can strum a few chords on his guitar.

Klipa started last summer in the former Neveh Tzedek tile factory that is Tichnell's home. They built a stage, borrowed lights,

scrounged or made costumes. made their own posters, "and pulled chairs from the trash," according to Tulpanov.

"It's very important to build and make everything yourself, to touch everything with your own hands," Tulpanov insists. "It's another way to express yourself." This idea is part of the Derevo

improvisational theater commune's creative philosophy. Tulpanov, who is from St. Petersburg, was part of the company for five years. (The St.

Petersburg-hased appeared at the 1991 Israel Festival.)

On a trip to Amsterdam in 1994 with Derevo, he met Herman. also a former Batsheva dancer, "and we found a little underground theater and made three shows together just to try our power."

When Herman came home, Tulpanov came with her and Klipa was born. As he says, "life comes and hrings with it things or

Fringe Center at ZOA House has Bat-Dor 'brat' gets two solo roles

'm the company hrat," says 22-year-old Bat Dor dancer Arik Alfassi. They spoil me, but I always have something to say."

Apparently his body is as effective as his tongue, because Alfassi is a Bat Dor soloist and is featured in Gigi Caciuleanu's Lunaris and in Domy Reiter-Hedim Sofer's ("Reverberations"), both of

which premiered at the Noga Cinema last week. Lunaris, says Caciuleanu. "plays with the idea of the full moon as another world," in which moments in an individual's life are captured and isolated. Hedim,

with music by Benny Nagari and Amos Elkana, is huilt around percussionist Chen Zimbalista, who creates the sound together with the dancers. Reiter-Sofer says that the dance itself intimates that redemption is possible only after

acknowledging sin. "Domy's dance is very clear, HELEN KAYE

very accessible," says Alfassi. He adds that with Caciuleanu the audience has 10 work harder. because "Gigi works a lot through the subconscious.

"Working with him is very hard because his dance [language] is based on everyday movements and those are difficult to grasp or to isolate, because you don't think about them when you do

"I'd make a movement, for instance, and he'd ask me why I did that. He's very focused, very demanding and knows exactly what he wants, and Domy's the same. I'm an actor in his piece. I sing and play the drum. Hedun is like a fantastical emotional jour-

The stage, says Alfassi, is where he wants to be and - he admits a bit sheepishly - he was originally influenced by TV's Fame.

He was also influenced by the first dance concert he ever saw. This was a Bat Dor evening in Becrsheba, and Luminescences was one of the pieces "and I wanted to perform one of the roles in it." he recalls.

He was 14 then, a Dimona boy who wanted in dance. "My family were very supportive, against all my expectations," he says.

Two years later he started studying at Bat Dor's Beersheba branch. He won scholarships, and as an "outstanding dancer" he was taken into the company as an apprentice even while he was still serving in the Air Force. Recently he left the Bat Dor nest to dance with Eyal Nahum in Only Men Dance at Suzanne Dellal, and his future includes plans to study and dance abroad.

"I want to succeed," he says. and, oh ves he's dancing in Luminescences.

Ra'anana is keeping it light

■NTRODUCING the '96/97 subscription season at the Ra'anana Symphonette, its new music director Yuval Zeliouk said "there's no real disparity between pure classical and what's called light music. After all, when Mozart wrote his divertimenti, they were considered light music."

To prove it be has included a sing-along of pop songs alongside music by Beethoven, Hindemith, Saint-Saens and Mozart (the Requiem). Zeliouk, who replaced Yerucham Scharovsky, will conduct five of the nine concerts offered.

One of the pieces is Persian Tents by Yonatan Adi Raz-El hased on ancient Persian melodies he heard played on a santur hy a carpet seller. Clarinetist Orit Auerbach will play Robert Starer's Klezmer in that same concert. The Symphonette has commissioned or played 17 works with Jewish themes since 1991.

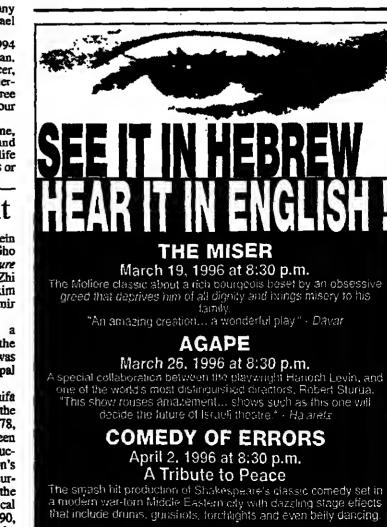
Other conductors are Bernstein Competition finalist Shuang Gho who will include Festive Overture by fellow countryman Huan Zhi Li ln her program, Maxim Shostakovich, and Vladimir Altschuler. Altschuler will conduct a

memorial concert dedicated to the late violist Yuri Gemein who was the Symphonette's first principal Yuval Zeliouk was born in Haifa

and was music director of the Haifa Symphony from 1975-78, but most of his career has been ahroad. His first joh was conductor for four years of London's Royal Ballet Orchestra. He is currently Conductor Laureate of the Toledo Symphony whose musical director he was from 1980-90, during which time he tripled the orchestra's subscriber base.

The orchestra's 1996 budget is NIS 4.5 million, 45% of which is earned income.

Helen Kaye



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A good first step

ABINET ministers attending yesterday's government meeting must have listened to Prime Minister Shimon Peres in utter disbelief. In attempting to justify the closure imposed on the territories, Peres cited Yasser Arafat's "jihad" speeches, in which he exhorted the Palestinian multitudes to liberate Palestine "with soul and fire." It was only a few weeks ago that Peres told an Israeli paper he saw oothing wrong with the use of the word jihad. Arafat, he said, had explained that it could mean anything, "even a love letter."
He also mentioned other Palestinian sins: the

condoleoce visits Arafat paid Hamas leaders and Yihye Ayyash's family; the universal joy in the territories whenever Jews are killed by terrorists; the almost instant release by the Palestinian Authority of wanted terrorists after they were arrested and sentenced to long prison terms; the reluctance of the PA to incarcerate Mohammed Dief and Hassan Salameh, wanted for masterminding the latest spate of suicide bombings; and the fact that Gaza has been "the source of evil," the headquarters and command center of the bombings.

But since Arafat and the PA have been consistently and relentlessly committing all these transgressions ever since they assumed power in Gaza and Jericho, the ministers must have wondered why Peres suddenly believes they deserve such severe and brutalizing collective punishment.

As anyone reading newspapers - let alone those privy to intelligence reports - had to know, the PLO and Hamas were on flirting terms throughout the three years in which the latter have been practicing suicide bombings of Israelis. And throughout this period the government simply chose to ignore or whitewash the facts Peres now cites as reasons for the closure. Until virtually the very moment of the bus bombing on February 25, Peres had nothing but praise for the way Arafat was tackling Hamas

Perhaps the most illuminating commentary on Israel's relationship with the PA came from the PLO's chief representative in the US Hassan Rahman, who testified last week in Washington before the House International Relations Committee. Asked pointed questions about several issues, ranging from the PA's inaction against Hamas to the PLO letterhead which still shows the map of "Palestine" covering the whole territory from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean. Rahman expressed surprise at the congressmen's concern.

"We have made this agreement with the Israelis," he said. "They know exactly what you know, but we have never heard a complaint from them." Indeed, until two weeks ago Israel did not only refrain from complaining. It lobbied with all its famous zeal and unparalleled expertise for international aid to the PA. Israeli officials even asserted that those who opposed such aid, among them some of Israel's staun-chest supporters, "are no friends of Israel."

Not unreasonably, Rahman said he expected precisely the same Israeli reaction this time around. The only way to solve the problem of terrorism is to give the PA more money, he said, while the closure, causing untold hardship, can only exacerbate an already miserable situation. The US and the rest of the world should increase their contributions to the PA, provide more jobs in the self-rule territories, and thus deprive the terrorists of their natural cannonfodder: the young, poverty-strickeo dwellers of the refugee camps in the areas under Palestinian control, he asserted.

It is almost superfluous to add that the Israeli Left, io government, academe and the media, have already picked up this refrain. The real infrastructure of terrorism, they say, is the poverty, humiliation and misery of the Palestinians. The only way to eliminate violence is to extricate them from this and give them a good life. In practice, this means more workers employed in Israel, and more investments in the PA.

To more cynical observers, this seems like an almost perfect racket. The Islamic terrorists strike at Israel, causing the government to impose a closure. Within days, the international community, the media and segments of the Israeli public clamor for an end to the cruelties of collective punishment. Then they realize that the only solution left is to pour even more money into the coffers of the PA, in the hope that employment will assuage the fanatics.

But there is a limit to what the world's governments can give a corrupt regime which fosters terrorism. And private investors, who ultimately must build up an economy which can provide employment and prosperity are not about to invest in a poor, violence-ridden land run by corrupt tyrants.

Instead of acceding to PA demands for more money, and instead of rashly applauding Arafat. for "100 percent cooperation" in the fight against terrorism, as Secretary of State Warren Christopher has done, it may be useful to suspend Israel's withdrawal and further financial grants until the PA truly acts against terrorism.

Peres's warning that Israel will not evacuate Hebron until the PA arrests Dief and his cohorts is a good first step. It is the kind of step that should have been taken two years ago, when Arafat was doing precisely the kind of things with which Peres is charging him now.



"Come dance with me..."

From bitter experience

N 1993 and early 1994, Turkey and Syria signed 18 agreements designed to eod the enmity between them. Iran mediated.

One of these agreements went so far as to obligate Turkey to hack Syrian policies relating to Lebanoo and Israel, even wheo they conflicted with US policy. Turkey also promised Syria regular supplies of Euphrates water.

The main Syrian quid pro quo was to be a halt in support for the Kurdish PKK, which orga-nized terrorist activities against Turkey from bases in Lebanon and Syria.

The background to this dramatic switch io Turkey's policy was its frustration with the West. Since Kemal Ataturk, Turkey had been the only Moslem state (except for Soviet republics) with a genuinely secular governmeet oriented toward Europe. It strove to become part of the European Community, but was rejected.

When it sought compensation through influence in the Turkic republics of Ceotral Asia after. the hreakup of the Soviet Union, it was discouraged by the US. which nixed its cooperating with Russia.

The American guidelines effec-tively hobbled Turkish efforts, while Russia tried to safeguard its position by a deal with Iran, which undertook not to stir up that Saudi Arabia and Egypt could be trusted to look after Iranian interests by promoting Islamization there.

Turkey was left in limbo. Its regional influence declined sharply. Creating a bloc with Iran and Syria, while moving closer to the other Arab states, seemed a better prospect.

In an effort to please Egypt, Turkey adopted a frieodly policy towards the PLO, and even asked Israel to briog Libya into the peace process.

BUT THE Turks had not reckoned with Syrian duplicity.

AST week's international

anti-terrorism summit io

YOHANAN RAMATI

Wheo Turkish Premier Tansu Ciller visited Israel, she complained that all 18 agreemeots had been breached by Damascus, and that the PKK was making serious trouble.

Relations with Iran remained good, and were expanded to include close economic cooperation in crucial spheres like transportatioo and fuel.

Israel can learn from the Turks about the value of agreements with **Damascus**

The Iranians did everything possible to relieve the tensions between Ankara and Damascus. Eventually the crisis seemed over. The Turkey-Syria-Iran bloc

appeared to have survived.
in February 1995, the PKKagain began open operations against Turkey, this time in the Hatay (Alexandretta) province, which Syria has always claimed. lt also fought against the Kurdish Democratic Party in Iraq, which it coodemns as pro-American and pro-Israeli. In November, fied, and Syria signed a military pact with Greece.

This was too much for the Turks. President Suleiman Demirel seot an army division to the Syrian border and summed up the situation in an official statement: "The problem with terrorism in our country is that Syria aids and harbors it.... We have repeatedly tried to reach an understanding with Syria, but it refuses to act."

Having finally learned from bitter experience that agreements with Syria areo't worth the paper they are written on, Turkey is deeply disturbed by the US- sponsored peace process between Syria and Israel.

If a peace treaty is signed, the Turks expect Syria to move large forces now facing Israel to the Syria-Turkey border, while Hafez Assad would probably benefit from American diplomatic support in any future Syria-Turkey dispute.

The Turks are now anxious that Israel should keep the Golan Heights. Neither strengthening Syria nor improving its relations with Washington is on their

To round out the gloomy Turkish picture, Greece bas also signed a military pact with Russia. While this may have been a reaction to the anti-Serb US policy in Yugoslavia (the Greeks, like the Serbs, are Orthodox and the sanctions in Serbia have cost them billions of dollars), it could easily be used as an instrument of anti-Turkish strategies.

Any previous government of Israel would have tried, in such a situation, to reach a serious strategic understanding with Turkey. But the present govern-ment is chasing the dream of lasting peace with Syria under some kind of American umbrella. A formal peace treaty with

Syria would put an end to any prospect of long-term cooperation with Turkey. Yet such a treaty is no more likely to be agreements they signed with Ankara. Among its possible results are another upsurge of Islamic fundamentalism in Turkey, and the fall of its secular government

The American umbrella is not protecting Israel from Syriansponsored terrorism today, and it will oot protect Israel when the Syrians infringe the peace treaty, as they will at the first convenient opportunity.

The writer is chairman of the Jerusalem Institute for Western

Great divide

EFRAIM ZUROFF

Vith Jewish-black rela-tions at an all-time low in the US and Louis Farrakhan's message of contempt for Judaism and the Jewish people gaining increased support among American blacks, it seems pretty clear that new strategies must be worked out to bridge the gap between two communities that, in the past, have closely cooperated to advance civil rights.

One issue which appeared to

provide a convenient context to renew the dialogue between blacks and Jews was the recent assistance provided by Israelis and Jewish organizations to Rwanda in its efforts to deal with the traumatic results of the genocide of spring

Based on this assumption, the Simon Wiesenthal Center arranged for me to speak on the Rwandan genocide and its aftermath in vari-

ous American cities.

The idea was to explain the historical background to the genocide and relate how in the wake of a visit to Rwanda I had, at the request of the current government, become involved in its efforts to bring the perpetrators of mass murder to justice.

Most of the lectures were to young people - among them many students - but there was also a meeting with black and Jewish professors.

I believe that what transpired at that meeting clearly reflects the growing gap between blacks and Jews and affords us some insight into the bleak future of black-Jewish relations.

At a southern private university, I was invited to address a joint meeting of the faculties of Judaic Studies and African-American Studies.

Organized by the director of the former, the meeting was perceived as an opportunity to enable Jewish faculty members to initiate dialogue with their black counterparts. Jewish assistance to black Rwanda, it was assumed, would provide an appropriate backdrop.

Much to my surprise, however, that wasn't the case at all. If anything, the meeting showed how deep the divide is, and how badly the groups need a healing process.

INSTEAD of welcoming the involvement of Israel and Jewish groups in Rwanda, the black professors almost unanimously took exception to our efforts.

"You do not understand Africa." "Your concept of justice is alien to the continent," "What do you expect to achieve?" were some of ne comments i feceived, the implication clearly being that these professors regarded our involvement, contrary to our expectations, as at best unwelcome, and probably counterproductive. The real source of Rwanda's problem, most

When I spoke to black professors in the US about my work in Rwanda they were deeply

injured opined, was the legacy of colonial-

takes made by whites.

have been the case.

After all, the black community in the US did nothing to halt the murders in Rwanda, nor is it involved

Under those circumstances, the worst thing imaginable for them was to be lectured on these problems by an Israeli Jew actually involved in solving them. In a sense, it was adding insult to

ate the existent differences.

problem exists.

take the easy way out by consis-teetly hlaming others for their problems, not only will they be failing their brethren who so desperately need their assistance, they wili also have lost a golden opportunity to mend fences with their Jewish potential allies. And that will be a very unfortunate development for both communities.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE BENEFITS OF HEMP real criminals

Sir, - Your interview of February 24 with Professor Arnold Trebach was an outstanding and courageous effort by the JP and Esther Hecht. Israelis, like their American counterparts, have been misinformed about marijuana use and its effects. Lawmakers have deprived the people of their free choice to benefit from marijuana and the hemp plant. Aside from marijuana's harmless psycho-active effects, it is medically proven to cure the wasting syndrome that kills AIDS patients. Cancer victims affected by chemotherapy can benefit from marijuana. Marijuana, unlike tobacco and alcohol, is not physically addictive. This "drug" saves lives!

The only crime most marijuana offenders commit is simply possessing for smoking small amounts of marijuana. These non-violent offenders are using prison space and tax money that should be used to catch rapists, terrorists and other

A THOUSAND AND ONE

who put any faith in Assad's words:

die the Syrians, for these were his

first dealings with them. He imag-

med they would be as good as their

word and was taken aback when he

found that the word of a Syrian was

in fact a thousand and one words

and that what they agreed to one

It is now President Clinton and

Prime Minister Peres who are going

through this excruciating and frus-

trating experience. Therefore, the

current exercise of eliciting a

'word' from Assad may he just

Hopefully 1996 will bring saner

DR MANFRED R. LEHMANN

another miscalculation by Peres.

politics for Israel's future.

Miami Beach.

day, they rejected the next."

'Carter did not know how to han-

DEMOLITION OF

The cultivation of hemp, the plant

from which marijuana is derived,

can solve many of our environmen-

tal problems. One acre of hemp can

produce as much paper as four acres of trees, making it a very important

crop to grow in Israel. The plant,

which has traditionally flourished in

this climate, can be utilized to pro-

duce paper, rope and clothing

among other products. Hempseed

oil can be used to fuel automobiles,

replacing the more harmful and in-

creasingly rare and expensive fossil

fuels. The oil can be used for cook-

ing, machine lubrication, plastic

For well over 3,000 years hemp

and marijuana have been used to

benefit humankind. Its proven mate-

rial and medicinal use must be uti-

ARI NEIMAND

production and more.

lized in this country.

Kibbutz Harel.

WORDS HOUSES Sir, - With the resumption of contacts with Assad and the Syrian gov-Sir, - Demolition of houses and deportations have the potential to ernment, it is most urgent to hearken serve both as a deterrent and as a to the warning which comes to us punishment for terrorists. However, from beyond the grave, as contained we know that there is a legal and in the posthumous memoirs of the moral problem in punishing somelate president Anwar Sadat (Those I one for someone else's crimes. I Have Known). He mocked those, would suggest a new policy. especially president Jimmy Carter,

A condition for entry permits for Arabs from Judea, Samaria and Gaza would be presentation of five guarantors, whose homes would serve as security. It would not only solve the legal and moral problem, but would speed up the process when it needs to be used. We could say perhaps that for car theft, we blow up two houses, for knife attacks, we blow up all five houses, and deport the residents - all that by pre-agreed contract based on in-

And it might well reduce the oumber of Arabs entering our urban. areas - especially if we computerize the system and allow no house to be used for more than say three guaran-

tees at any one time. ISRAEL PICKHOLTZ

APPEAL FOR INFORMATION

Sir, - On June 15, 1995, in a diving tragedy at Dahab, Sinai, Egypt, four young divers went "missing presumed drowned."
Two of them, David Warner and Lisa Thomson, were from the UK. The two others were from Germany.

A search carried out by divers

qualifications. The parents of David Warner,

what happened on June 15, 1995. If anyone has any information about David's possessions or log books, they should contact the British Embassy in Tel Aviv and speak to John Fielder, tel. 03-510-0166 or 03-510-0497, or at St. Andrew's Church of Scotland, Jerusalem, and speak to Rev. Colin Morton, tel. 02-

KENNETH WARNER Halkirk, Scotland.

According to the prime minister, this leaves the Israeli electorate with

This is taking "damage control" to new depths. FAY DICKER Brooklyn, N.Y.

from Eilat eight days later recovered only one body, that of Lisa Thomson. The diving gear of David Warner was found on the shore at the same time. Why his diving gear was found remains a mystery. David had been in Eilat from May 1994 to November 1994 working at Dolphin Reef, before going to Dahab to gain farther diving experience and

from Scotland, received most of his possessions. They were returned to Scotland through Israel. But some of them went missing in the transfer, notably diving log books. His parents are anxious to trace these items, particularly the log books, as they may help to unravel the mystery of

732401, or phone his parents at 0044-1847-831227.

'DAMAGE CONTROL'

Sir, - Ah! Now it all becomes crystal clear: 61 innocent Israelis were brutally murdered and hundreds were maimed for life because Hamas was determined to topple the Labor government. (Naturally, Prime Minister Peres suspected this, but did not reveal his suspicious.)

two choices: either vote for Likud and help implement Hamas's master plan, or vote for Peres and Labor in order to thwart Hamas's one goal.

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

Where the pests breed

Sharm e-Sheikh was a wellorchestrated photo opportunity for both President Clinton and Prime Minister Peres, designed to help both men get reelected. But it was

The impressive array of leaders who came conveyed what was without doubt an important mes-sage about the attitude of most of the world toward terrorism; and the fact that the summit was convened in reaction to the recent wave of murderous terror attacks here shows that the international community's attitude to Israel and to its citizens' welfare has under-

much more than that.

gone a change.
At the same time one would have to be very naive indeed to believe that the summit will have any real lasting effect - unless. that is, all the fine words that were spoken there get translated into concrete action.

Terrorism will continue to exist as long as those who instigate it view it as a practical means of

attaining their goals. Shortly after the 1977 elections, none other than former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, interviewed by Lord Bethell (author of The Palestine Triangle) on the activities of the Lehi underground movement and its terror acts before the establishment of the state, said that "such methods work."

If so, in addition to close international cooperation the aim of those fighting worldwide terror should be to demonstrate that "such methods no longer work" by refusing to give in either to ter-

rorists' immediate demands (such as releasing co-terrorists already in jail) or to their more general ones (stopping the peace process).

THE WAR oo terrorists is, in many respects, like the hattle against mosquitoes. It needs to be waged on three levels. The first step takes place at the local level. You have physically to

Combating terror has a lot in common with fighting mosquitoes

keep them away. With mosquitoes you place screens over your windows and doors and nets over your hed. With terrorists, you erect strong fences to keep them apart

from their potential victims. The oext level is getting rid of the pests. With mosquitoes, there is no problem about killing them using lethal substances. But mass liquidation to rid ourselves of terrorists is clearly morally macceptable, although individuals carrying out or about to carry out terror acts may certainly be eliminat-

Most important are the instigators of terror. They must be apprehended, jailed and stopped from making contact with their followers. Here, international cooperation will frequently be vital.

The third level is the most

important. It involves taking action against the hotbeds where the pests breed - against the mosquitoes' swamps and stagnant pools; and against the fundamentalist colleges and mosques where incitement to terror takes place, as

well as, of course, against terror-

supporting regimes. In the past, the Soviet Union and its satellites provided terrorists of all descriptions with funds. weapons, training and refuge. Today, this role has been mainly taken over by Iran, Sudan, and Libya.

But any action must be wise. Just as draining swamps has ofteo had serious ecological repercussions, acting against countries where terror breeds could have highly negative results it would he wise to avoid. Regimes like Iran, Sudan, and

Libya can be stopped from sup-porting terror only through concerted international action, and only after careful consideration of all the consequences. One would not, for example, wish to see the innocent and help-

less citizens of those states suffering while their rulers are left And there is another danger: Those rulers could be pushed to adopt a policy of "dying with the Philistines," which in concrete

terms could mean their readiness to employ non-conventional weapons. Only time will tell whether the international community is willing and able to work out a united policy on terror.

The writer is a political scientist.

Their implied conclusion, which both the Jewish faculty members present and I found extremely difficult to accept, was that efforts such as those of the Wiesenthal Center in Rwanda were no more than an extension of previous mis-

I admit to have been initially shocked by the response of the black faculty members. But in retrospect, perhaps that should not

in any meaningful way in rehabilitation efforts in that country.

Thus a topic which should have helped bridge the gap between the two groups only served to accentu-

Although the response among students, among them many hlacks, was much more positive, the attitude of the black professors clearly indicates that a very serious

If educated blacks continue to

The writer is director of the Israel office of the Simon

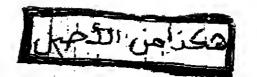
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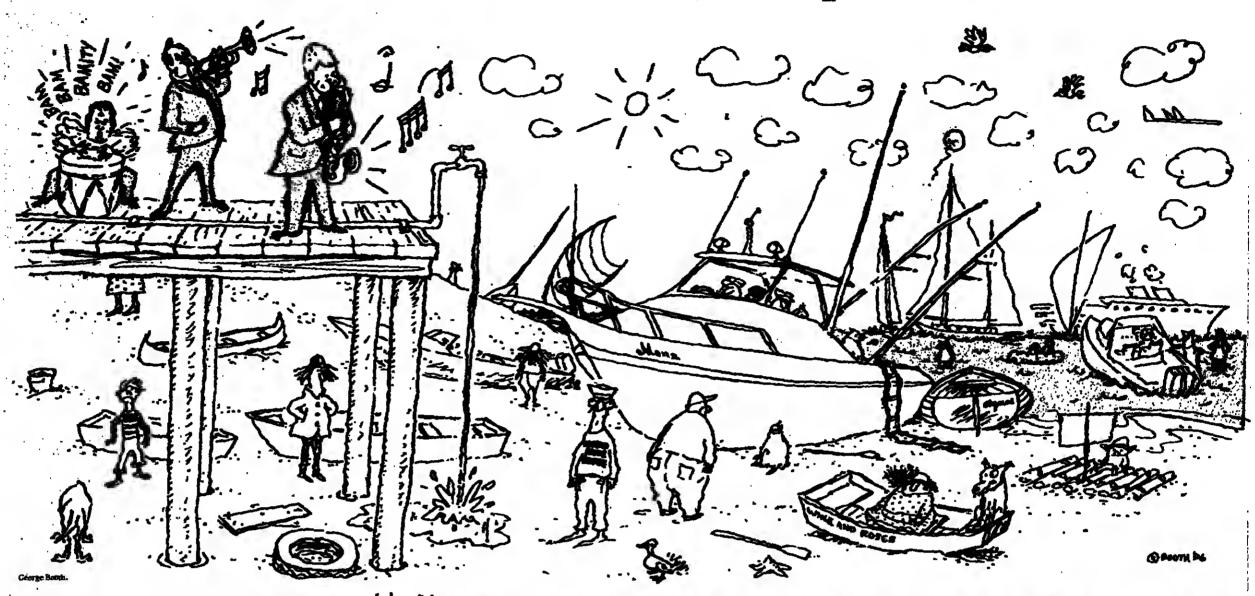
Trickle Down

Vol. CXLV-No. 50,369

Sunday, March 17, 1996

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It's a Slow-Growth Economy, Stupid



By LOUIS UCHITELLE

O much goes unsaid when Bob Dole calls for a balanced budget and less regulation to get the economy booming again. Or when Bill Clinton offers his formula of more public spending on job training and education to bring back the old prosperity. As the chief rivals for the Presidency, they are engaging in a rather traditional campaign debate - one that assumes the American economy can go back to the

high growth of another era.
That is what goes unsaid. The candidates challenge each other with conflicting nostrums for generating growth. Push the right policy buttons, they say, and presto, the ecocomy will boom. What they don't debate is whether strong growth - the sort that would raise living standards and make layoffs less frequent - is in

Such growth is not possible, according to the great majority of American economists. No campaign formula, whether from Republicans or Democrats, Steve Forbes or Patrick J. Buchanan, will change that stark reality in the rest of this century. "The candidates are promising what no President can deliver," said Robert M. Solow of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology,

a Nobel laureate in economics. History and circumstances, in sum, have locked the United States into a level of economic growth that, measured against expectations raised by the 1996 Presidential campaign, is politically unacceptable. "It might be good for our politics if some candidate acknowledged this," said William Kristol, editor of the Weekly Standard and a Republican strategist, addressing an issue that most politicians don't, in public.

Living Modestly

If the candidates did, and the public accepted the verdict (Mr. Kristol says Americans, being hard-headed and practical, probably would), then a new set of policies and campaign promises would almost certainly have to arise. They would focus oot on how to make the economy swell, lifting all boats, but how to live with the modest growth that is possible. What is possible, the economists say, is much less than what the Presidential candidates seem to promise.

That discrepancy has not surfaced yet in the election campaign. But it is implicit in some of the Administration's proposals. While Mr. Clinton's economists don't broadcast the view that economic growth has its ceiling, they push for policies that in effect recognize that belief. For example, they advocate a proposal that is gaining bipartisan support: if layoffs are to be endemic, then workers should be equipped, by law, with "portable" benefits, meaning they would keep pensions and health insurance whatever their job status.

"It is another version of unemployment compensation," said Laura D'Andrea Tyson, head of the Presi-

dent's National Economic Council. Portable benefits was hardly a front-and-center theme in the primary elections just ending. Instead, the economics reflected in the political rhetoric has been

this: pull the right policy levers and the economy will grow, as it did in the 1960's, a hugely generous decade that Mr. Dole, Mr. Clinton and Mr. Buchanan suggest

Happy Faces

"In a Dole Administration," the candidate said recently, "we're going to liberate the great eogine of free enterprise." Neither Mr. Dole nor President Clinton quantifies his ideal growth rate. The President, spotlighting the present, says instead, 'Our economy is the healthiest it has been in three decades" - ignoring the fact that three decades ago, in the 1960's, the economy expanded at more than twice today's growth

rate. Still, the President paints rainbows for the future. Pushing to spend more on education, for example, the President suggests that corporate America would spew out high-paying jobs for growing hordes of the

Continued on page 3

Politics as Usual

In Africa, ethnic loyalties threaten national consensus.

By Howard French

Guerilla Advertising

What do a vodka bottle, a fur coat and a bloody nose have in common?

By Steven Greenhouse





Gunboat Diplomacy, '96 Model

By PHILIP SHENON

WASHINGTON NLY hours after the orders went out from the White House last weekend, 81,000 tons of hardened gray steel began to shake to life in the Persian Gulf. The aircraft carrier Nimitz picked up speed, slicing through

the briny waters of the gulf, its course set due east. President Clinton had ordered the Nimitz to join another carrier, the Independence, off Taiwan as a reminder to China that the United States inteoded to protect its Taiwanese friends.

In fighting for its slice of the Pentagon budget, the Navy could not have asked for better symbolism - a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, that most powerful symbol of seaborne might, rushing to protect a threatened ally, projecting American military supremacy in a corner of the world central to the American ecocomy.

For many in Asia outside of China, the reaction was gratitude - and relief. The Taiwan Government said the American fortable with American ships in place." A quarter century after the humiliations of the Vietnam War, the cries of "Yankee, Go Home" once heard across Asia have been largely replaced with equally anguished pleas of "Yankee, Stay Here."

In most of Asia, the American military long ago shed whatever image it had as the war machine of an ogreish superpower. Today, the image - accurate or not - is one of the honest broker that can help keep the peace, and as the only counterweight to China's growing military power.

The Navy was deploying off Taiwan "in a precautionary measure," said Vice Adm. Archie Ray Clemins, the commander of the United States Seventh Fleet, in a telephone interview from his command ship, the Blue Ridge, as it sailed from Indonesia to the South China Sea to keep watch on Chinese missile tests near Taiwan. "We do not want to see escalation,"

Continued on page 2



Justice Delayed

Agreeing Not to Agree

By LINDA GREENHOUSE

WASHINGTON S soon as a Federal appeals court decided, early this month, that the Constitution gives terminally ill people the right to a doctor's assistance in hastening death, the speculation began: What would the Supreme Court say?

Was there a chance that this provocative ruling could survive review by a Court that is notably skeptical of "new" constitutional rights? Or might at least five Justices, a bare majority, agree with the appeals court that Supreme Court precedents on abortion and on the right of patients to reject unwanted medical care have logically brought the law to the point of sustaining assisted sui-

While the prospects are fascinating, there is one question that has scarcely been

asked: Will the Court take the case? Yet, increasingly, that is the question to ask before diving into the merits of any particularly challenging issue that floats within the Court's orbit. The Justices' handling of their docket has struck lawyers who practice before the Court, and others who monitor its shrinking calendar, as ever more baffling if not downright quirky.

The Court may or may not agree to review the assisted suicide ruling. Strong arguments can be made either way. No appeal has even been filed yet, and any decision is months away. The point here is to offer not a prediction but a caveat: the more tantalizing a case looks, the less likely the Justices are to accept it these days.

The Court's docket has plenty of admiral-



ty cases (two will be argued on Tuesday). tax cases (four within the next two weeks) and bankruptcy cases (a steady diet). Yet the Justices have recently bypassed an array of eye-catching cases. Among the cases the Court has turned down, usually without

comment or recorded dissent, were these: . • Freedom from Religion v. Colorado, a First Amendment attack on the state's display of the Ten Commandments, carved on a four-foot-high stone monument outside the capitol; the Colorado Supreme Court had split 4 to 3 on whether the display was an impermissible endorsement of religion.

· Association of National Advertisers v. Lungren, a commercial speech challenge to a California law that restricts advertisers from making certain environmental claims; a product cannot be described as "biodegradable," for example, unless it will decompose within a year, even if it meets generally accepted definitions of biodegrad-

• McKown v. Lundman, an appeal by a Christian Scientist mother from a state court judgment of liability for negligence in the death of her child from diabetes after

Continued on page 4

The World

Can African Democracy Survive Ethnic Voting?

By HOWARD W. FRENCH

COTONOU. Benin URING 17 years in power, Mathieu Kérékou, this country's former Marxist dictator, is credited with having paved all of two and a half miles of road in his native north, an arid dustbowl whose status as Benin's forgotten hinterland was left unchanged even by its favorite son.

But for all his neglect, Mr. Kérékou, who has never lived in the north as an adult, won over 90 percent of his native region's vote in the first round of this country's second-ever democratic presidential elections this month. And largely on the strength of this support, the former dictator now stands poised to defeat an incumbent, Nicéphore Soglo, who, whatever his faults, restored growth to an economy in steep decline.

When the winning region or tribe takes all, voting can divide, not unify, a nation.

Indeed, the campaigns of both men included ethnic appeals or baiting. For many, such ploys bear a disturbing lesson for a continent where multi-party politics only recently began to blossom: The emotional pull of allegiances based on tribe, language and region remains far stronger than appeals based on policies and

Because of this, democratic systems throughout Africa often seem as powerless as authoritarian ones to lend legitimacy to states that were created artificially

by outsiders little more than a century ago. In countries as diverse as Ivory Coast and Zambia,

Kenya and multi-racial South Africa, political parties bave been turning elections into contests of ethnic solidarity that all too often leave the winners in a position of formidable strength, and the losers feeling dangerously vulnerable. For the excluded minorities, in countries as far-flung as Angola, Liberia, Burundi and Chad, the response to this winner-take-all-style politics has been violence or outright civil war.

Why Benin Is Different

Benin itself narrowly escaped this fate 30 years ago, early in its independence from France, when it set the pace for the most coups in Africa as leaders of the north and a divided south continually vied for power.

If the Benin of the 1990's manages to avoid this outcome, it will be because political institutions that grew out of a 1990 National Conference have been able at once to demonstrate their independence and solidity, unlike those of most African countries. Here and in South Africa, to name another example, autonomous courts and legislatures help insure that even political "losers" retain some recourse to justice.

"The question is why this hasn't all broken down, as it did in the 60's and 70's," said Bruce A. Magnusson, a political scientist at the University of Wisconsin. "Part of the answer is that because the parliament plays a real role and you have a constitutional court, which is one of the most remarkable institutions in Africa, the fear of being completely excluded from the power and resources of the state is gone."

For many African leaders, and increasingly for the opposition too, the temptation to play the ethnic card is too great, and the payoff of truly independent institutions not compelling. Mr. Kérékou, for example, put a modern spin on an old trick: he used a Web page on the Internet for an illustrated tract that amounts to ethnic baiting. Mr. Soglo, a southerner, retaliated by proclaiming an official holiday for Vodoun, the ancestral religion along Benin's coast.



President Nicephore Soglo of Benin seeking votes. He is a southerner, his election opponent a northerner.

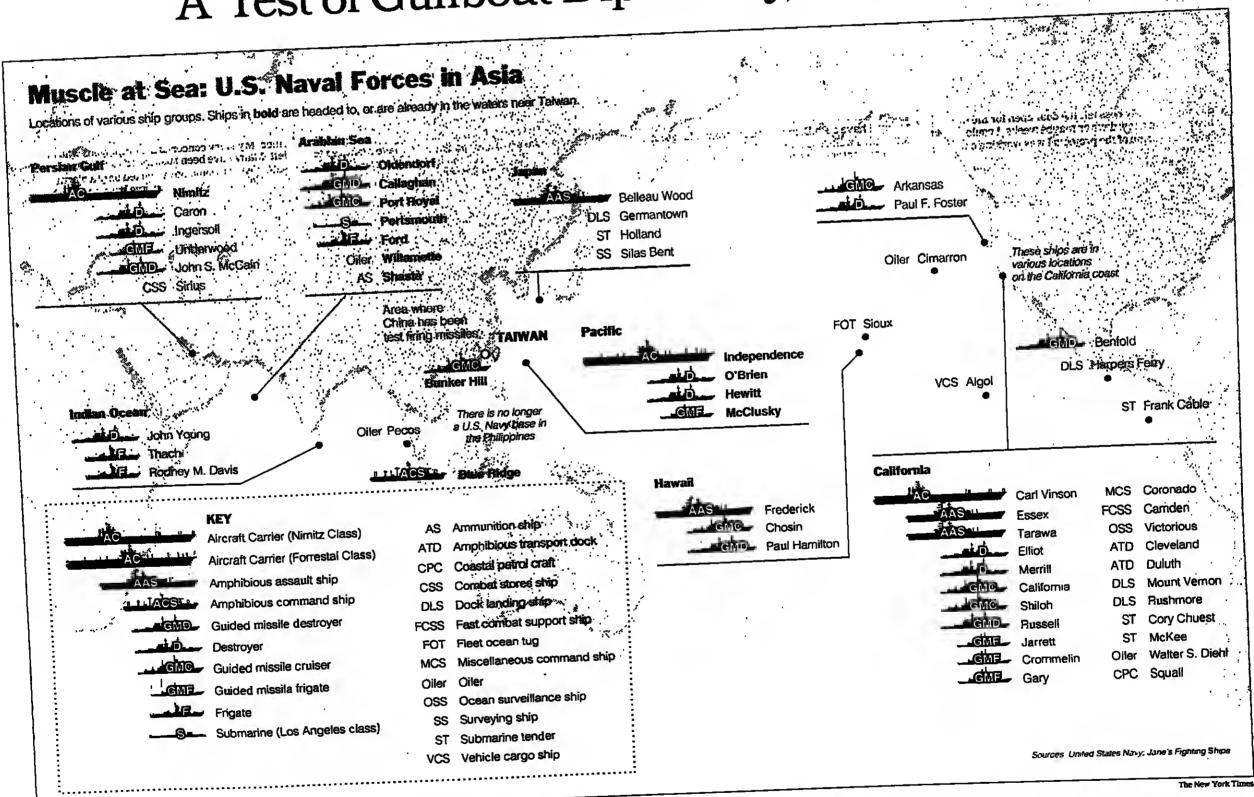
Ethnic identification is so strong in tiny Benin that people who travel 15 miles often speak of leaving one "country" for another. In far larger states, like Zambia or Kenya, residents of distant regions feel no kinship toward each other, and in the case of peasants may not share a mutually intelligible language.

"In Nigeria, although there is apparent ethnic balance between the north, the east and the west, the three major ethnic entities of the country see the game of politics as a means of capturing power to the exclusion of the others," said Makau Mutua, a Kenyan scholar at Harvard Law School. "The state does not really exist, because its elites cannot agree to submit to it." Nations come together, he said, in response to internal shocks or external aggression, much as the United States crystallized its national identity in its

So far in Africa, however, civil wars like Liberia's or Angola's have merely highlighted the frailty of the cookie-cutter creations of the 1884-85 Conference of Berlin, where Europeans carved up the continent.

"Soglo bas had a long enough track record so that one would have hoped that he could have been voted for or against more on the basis of what he has delivered rather than on the basis of ethnicity," said Will Reno, a political scientist at Florida International University in Miami. "You wonder if people aren't just determined to return to their pre-colonial identities. And when you look at what is happening in the former Soviet Union, that isn't so surprising.'

A Test of Gunboat Diplomacy, 1996 Model



Continued from page I

he said. "China has said that they are not going to attack Taiwan, and that's exactly what we want to see happen." The ships will be in place for the elections.

Across much of Asia, , the role of regional policeman falls largely to the United States Navy. Unlike the Army and the Air Force, which require land bases and airstrips, the Navy can establish a long-term presence without infringing on anyone's borders. It can be dispatched at a pace that allows diplomacy to cool a crisis even as the ships proceed; it can show resolve without risking what American generals have learned to

dread: a land war in Asia. The Navy has been patrolling Asian waters since the early part of the 19th century, and its sailors have been balancing diplomacy and warfare since the 1850's, when Commodore Matthew C. Perry used his big guns to force Japan to end 250 years of isolation.

Some Asian government officials accuse the American military of habitually overstating its role as an Asian peacekeeper. And the United States often seems under threat of overstaying its welcome. Having shut down its bases in the Philippines under nationalist pressure four years ago, it now finds that the recent rape of a 12-year-old Okinawan girl by three American servicemen has galvanized opposition to American

military bases in Okinawa and the rest of Japan. But something has obviously gone right in Asia in the years since the Vietnam War, and the American

military claims at least part of the credit.

After spending much of the previous 50 years at each others' throats, Asian nations -- with a few notable exceptions like North Korea, Cambodia and Vietnam have spent the last quarter-century making peace, and making money.

Without expensive armies to build and wars to fight, most Asian nations channeled their resources into building factories and creating jobs. As a result, the continent is home to the world's fastest-growing economies, with none growing faster than China's.

China's Private Feelings

Joseph S. Nye Jr., a former Assistant Secretary of Defense who is dean of Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, said that even the Chinese privately concede that the American military presence has helped keep the peace by restraining the military ambitions of China's old foe, Japan.

"In public," he said, "the Chinese will say that no country should have the right to put its troops outside

But behind closed doors, he said, the Chinese will

"give you a lecture about the dangers of Japanese militarism" and then express their reluctant willingness to allow the American military to remain in Asia. As a military threat, China is seen by its neighbors

as more a problem for the future than the present. It has the world's largest military force, but its weaponry is mostly antiquated, its nearly 3 million troops mostly untrained in modern tactics. The Pentagon has said that whatever its vast

numerical advantage over its tiny island neighbor, China would have difficulty invading Taiwan because of its meager amphibious forces. By that logic, what was happening last week seemed an effort to do no more than right the balance of psychological power in the region, by sending a symbol of American might to parry the sense of vulnerability sowed by China's livefire exercises off Taiwan.

But the balance of real power is shifting rapidly, and within several years, China may prove far more menacing as It tries to fulfill its asplrations as Asia's economic and military powerhouse. Its military budget has grown at a double-digit pace in recent years, with a new emphasis on advanced weapons.

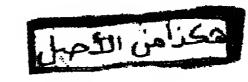
The Chinese have also demonstrated a new willingness to flex their muscle. There was alarm throughout Southeast Asia last year when the Chinese Navy overran a group of tiny, potentially oil-rich atolls in the

South China Sea and raised the Chinese flag. The atolls, part of a larger island chain known as the Spratlys, are hundreds of miles from the Chinese mainland

And as China's military strength grows, a budgetconscious United States has cut back its military forces deployed in the Pacific, alarming those of China's neighbors who had come to depend on an American defensive shield. Since 1991, the Navy's Pacific Fleet has been cut from 250 ships to 195, the number of sailors and marines from 250,000 to 215,000. The Navy is fighting to avoid any more cuts. But in that battle, the Navy confronts American taxpayers, who in one opinion poll after another have expressed the view that the United States should no longer serve as the policeman of Asia - or any other part of the world.

Navy admirals in the Pacific are now trained to recite the economic facts: The nations of Asia and the Pacific are responsible for more than one-third of all American trade, and Asian trade is directly linked to an estimated three million jobs in the United States. The loss of major Asian sealanes could stem the flow of foreign oil to American ports.

"Americans have to understand what Asia means to their paychecks, what it means to their jobs," said Stanley R. Arthur, a retired admiral who commanded the Seventh Fleet from 1990 to 1992. "They have to understand who America's economic partners are."



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Downsizing: How It Feels to Be Fired

ARLIER this month, The New York Times published a series of articles called "The Downsizing of America" about the causes and consequences of layoffs.

Overall unemployment is low, the articles noted, and far more new jobs have been created than old ones lost. Yet even though many companies are reaping big profits and the economy is growing, the layoffs continue. More and more of the jobs disappearing are those of higher-paid, white-collar employees, often at large corporations. Many of the newly jobless have college degrees or graduate degrees. Education no longer protects workers from being cast out.

The Times invited readers to send their own accounts of downsizing to an electronic mail address. Below are excerpts from some of the hundreds of replies, nearly all sent by electronic mail - to be sure, a self-selected group equipped with computers and willing to tell their stories.

Many speak of disappointment, anger and loss, of new jobs paying a fraction of their old ones, of lost medical insurance and pensions, of uprooted families and broken marriages. Others had difficulties but believe they have emerged from the experience stronger.

STEVE LOHR

To California and Back

: 🔊

In early 1990, my husband accepted a job offer in Orange County, Calif. We sold our home in northern New Jersey, picked up our three children and went off into the Pacific sunset.

We were convinced this would be a better life of more money and greater opportunity. We bought a beautiful home. I found a great job. Our kids were begimning to call this place with palm trees "home."

In January 1993, the horror that is now our life began. My busband's job was eliminated; the company that relocated us was relocating itself to Colorado. This wasn't supposed to happen to professional people like us. Out of work for seven months, my husband again re-

'What About Me?'

AM 46 and was employed as the advertising manager of a petroleum company. I lost my iob and \$65,000 annual salary last month. I was fired during a bitter, late January day. Friday afternoon at 1:45 P.M., to be precise, Behind cautiously closed doors, my boss told me he was regretfully eliminating my job.

My first reaction was to be very professional and emotionally controlled. I was empathetic, understanding, even forgiving. I told him I appreciated how hard it is firing someone. He told me he was protecting himself: there couldn't be two people with the same job responsibilities, Somebody had to go. He told me he was protecting the company. He told me he needed to set an exam-

The questions that all newly unemployed people confront bubbled from subconsciousness: Where will I go? What will I do now? How will I pay my bills? My boss left the door open for me to hang around a few days or maybe weeks. I could help finish some of the projects I was working on.

Seemed logical - for the company. What about me? I could get up every day and drag myself into an office where I am no long wanted. I could use this transition time to look for another job, perhaps convey the half-truth to other would-be employers that I am also securely

employed and just interested in career change. But I was humiliated. I chose to pack my office on Saturday afternoon. I chose to spit in the face of appearance. I wasn't going to become a daily

symbol of rejection. Society is cruel when it comes to the unemployed - especially the fired. Any job interviewer has to suspect someone who has been fired. Thus, there's a clear-cut rule: Everything else being equal between two candidates, don't hire the person who has unwillingly lost a job.

There is a plastic name plate glued to the wall outside every executive office. It has something to do with company pride. By my office door was my name spelled in crisp, sans-serif letters. I tried to remove just the upper layer of the name plate and leave the black plastic base for a future occupant, but the entire plate ripped from the wall. The top layer of wall paint tore with it. For the first time during this 24-hour ordeal, I feit guilt. Is the symbolism of the marred wall too raw? Will this image become another nail in the coffin holding my credibility? Does it appear I left in rage?

BRENT GREEN Denver, Colo. located - back to New Jersey - the only offer he'd had. The children and I remained in California for one year as we attempted (unsuccessfully) to sell our home

in a dying economy. Eventually, once again, I sacrificed my career and uprooted three happy kids to the either cold or humid, albeit familiar, Northeast.

Although the new employer generously funded the moving no resources were available to us upon our arrival that would allow us to stock up empty cupboards or sign up little boys for the fall soccer season. Because we were unable to recoup our previous salary levels, we bave fallen into financial ruin.

No longer yuppies, now we work and work and yet are barely solvent. My marriage is on bold.

> SHELLY KAPLAN Succasunna, N.J.

Mixed Blessing

My wife and I joined the army of the downsized two years ago, and it has been a mixed blessing. Yes, we have experienced a loss in income; we moved to a smaller house; we scaled down dramatically; we experienced feelings of self-doubt and uncertainty.

On the other hand, as executives in a large corporation, we had become used to an unhealthy lifestyle one that placed material ahead of spiritual well-being. We assumed that our places in the corporation were assured, and took for granted everything that went with that - eating out every other night, postponement of savings and a consumerist outlook. Our family pulled together out of our crisis. We completely changed careers, and although we make less money now, we like what we are doing and do not miss for a moment the corporate politics we used to wade through every day.

Our children don't beg to go out every night anymore. They know the prices of their clothing, since they buy their own clothes from their chore money. We think long and hard about the real need of each purchase, rather than just the want behind it. As a consultant, I know now what many full-time workers around me are just beginning to realize. I know that employment with a client can end the next hour.

At the very least, the short term vision of today's corporate chieftains is creating a generation of people who will never again view the latest company campaign as anything more than a ruse to boost short-term bottom-line performance. "Teamwork," "Empowerment," "Total Quality Control" - I used to spout these out right along with the best of them. No more. Even if I could believe them, I know no one else would. Five years ago, I thought Deming could be the voice of the corporate world. Now I know it is really Dilbert.

TOM SCOTT Encinitas, Calif.

Too Many Jobs

Recently, I saw a political cartoon depicting an affluent older man making a speech at a banquet. He was saying, "Last year, thousands of new jobs were created in this country." The thought balloon over the waiter's head said, "Yeah, and I've got three of them." I didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

You see, for the past year, I've bad two jobs instead of the one job I used to have. Together, those two jobs pay approximately 10 percent of what my one job used to pay. I have a Ph.D. in chemistry from a large university with a well-respected chemistry program.

I had entered graduate school with a dream of working for an I.B.M. or an AT&T, doing research that would make a positive difference in people's lives. It took me five years after graduation to land that first industry job. I took great pride in the knowledge that I was working to decrease pollution and produce a useful product. I took my \$20,000 sign-oo boous and bought a

After 21/2 years, I was downsized out of the company. I spent eight months writing hundreds of letters. making hundreds of phone calls and networking at conferences. I got one job offer - 800 miles away. I bid tearful goodbyes and put my condo on the market. The market wasn't very good - everyone else was downsizing, too. My \$20,000 became \$10,000 overnight.

Just before Christmas 1993, I started work at the central research facility of a "good, stable company, heavily committed to research." After one year, things appeared to be going well, so I bought a bouse. I paid my taxes, bought company stock and planned for my fu-

In 1995, I received a pink slip for Valentine's Day. My new job had lasted all of 15 months. That was almost a year ago, and I'm still looking for full-time work. NANCY K. McGUIRE Bay City, Mich.

Happily Unemployed, With Boat

I have been downsized by the World Bank, after more than 15 years working as an economist. Both my wife and I were made redundant the same month (last August). I am 57, my wife 53.

Fortunately, we have no mortgage on a large old



Mary Berne, a former executive secretary.



James C. Megas, Ph.D., in his home office.



Nancy K. McGuire job hunting in New York.

townhouse in D.C., the World Bank has given me a more... than adequate severance package, we have managed to save quite a bit since arriving in the U.S. some 16 years... ago, and I can cash in a large part of my pension.

We now look at this unexpected situation as a unique chance to change life styles, spend more time together, structure our working day differently and do new things. The first thing we did last year after being made redundant was to buy an old sailboat! In the short run, we'll go sailing, do a lot of writing and happily get by on about \$3,000 a month pre-tax, compared with close to \$10,000 post-tax before. People shouldn't only look at the negative side.

EUGENE VERSLUYSEN Washington, D.C.

From Electronics to Dialysis

I was downsized for the first time in my life in November of 1991. Being a fairly sharp guy with an extensive background in electronics and computer programming, I didn't think it would be all that difficult to find a new job. I was somewhat concerned about my eight-month-old baby at home, but optimism was the word of the day.

My first real shock came three months after being laid off: It would cost \$598 a month to continue my medical benefits. Due to the fact that we were now living on unemployment compensation of \$300 a week, this was impossible. I could also no longer afford my blood pressure medication either, but I thought that my first obligation was to give my son as good a start in life as I could. I applied for Medicaid when I lost my insurance. The social worker thought it was pretty funny that someone collecting the princely sum of \$300 a week would think he was eligible for Medicaid.

Eventually my unemployment ran out and we suf-

fered the indignity of welfare for a month. The one good thing I can say about welfare is it gave me access to a very good career counselor who helped me land a job with a computer consulting firm in the summer of 1993. They kept me for six months, then laid me off. I collected unemployment again for nearly six months, and in the nick of time I got my present job, which seems to be as secure as anything is today.

The reason I mentioned the blood pressure medicine is this. The high blood pressure which I could not treat destroyed my kidneys. I am now on dialysis and trying to get a transplant. If I lose my job again it will destroy me. My dialysis costs my insurance company \$5,000 a month. When I get a transplant, I will have to take anti-rejection drugs for the rest of my life. I cannot change jobs due to this pre-existing condition.

MICHAEL MCGINN Monroe, N.Y.

Downsized and Pregnant

I worked for the U.S. General Accounting Office, a Congressional agency that exposes fraud, waste, abuse and mismanagement of Federal funds. The agency got a 25 percent budget cutback from the Republican But no one in my office expected the New York field of-

We received the bad news on Aug. 7. At the time, I was 81/2 months pregnant. I was unable to look for a job because oo one was interested in interviewing someone in that condition. I appealed to upper management for an extended time with the employment counseling services, but was denied. The exact quote from the Washington lawyer was, "G.A.O. didn't get you preg-

The office closed on Nov. 10. I have been looking for a job since then. My husband has taken on a second job, often working 90 hours a week. I am having a hard time looking for work while caring for my daughter. I can't hire a sitter until I have income coming in.

DIANA ERANI

Education Won't Help

In the 19 years since receiving my Ph.D., I have worked full-time for seven colleges and universities in three states. The longest I was able to stay at a single institution was six years, and I stayed at several institutions for periods as brief as one year, I have drawn unemployment compensation five, yes five, times. I have currently been unemployed for two years. I have applied for close to 2,000 jobs.

At age 45, I have little hope that I will have any more of a career as an academic psychologist. The standard cliché is that we need a better educated workforce. Well, from where I am sitting, having a education is no guarantee that one won't be left behind.

JAMES C. MEGAS

The Ones Who Hang On

Bell Atlantic, soon to merge with NYNEX, has not had massive layoffs, as yet, but many have retired with incentives to leave the payroll. These jobs have not been filled. My story concerns the employees who are left. Many have been suspended for minor violations of safety which would bave evoked only a warning in the past. Vacation, even though we have earned it, is getting more difficult to schedule. Forced overtime is on the horizon, as well as punishment for sickness.

Downsizing is a catastrophe for those who lose their jobs, and I would not presume to say that the irritations I suffer compare to that. However, downsizing makes life very stressful for the ones who hang on to their jobs a little longer, as well. Mostly, we are living in fear that we are next. We are!

PHILLIP RUBY St. Albans, W.Va.

The Outplaced Secretary

My busband was, until little over a year ago, a senior executive with an international organization. He had been in his field for over 25 years. I was an executive secretary with a worldwide company for 20 years until I was "outplaced" and he was "downsized." My husband decided to start his own company - a job search firm.

Within my own group of friends, out of four women known as the "Lunchbunch" at the office, only one is employed at present. The job market for mature secretaries is bleak and we are getting by, or trying to, by temping, searching for alternative careers and, in my case, assisting my husband in his new venture.

MARY BERNE Franklin Lakes, N.J.

"The Downsizing of America," with related articles and discussion forums, is available to computer users at two sites: The New York Times on the Web (http:// www.nytimes.com/downsize) and @times, on America

This Time, It's a Slow-Growth Economy, Stupid

Continued from page 1

college-educated. Mr. Buchanan would generate more jobs through policies that kept out imports and immigrants and penalized companies for relocating operations abroad.

in the booming economy that would result from their solutions, the wage stagnation that has lasted more than 20 years would disappear. And the layoffs, so widespread today and so troubling, would become far less noticeable as employers hurry to recruit workers to expand and join in the

flourishing times. That's a roughly accurate description of the way life was in the 1950's and 1960's. Then, economic growth, as measured by the gross domestic product - the GDP adds up what the nation's citizenry produces in a given year - grew by more than 4 percent a year, on average. That is nearly twice as much growth as the economy is capable of generating in this decade, even operating full-tilt.

Point of Agreement

A STATE OF THE STA

What is striking is how widely this view is held among economists. The reasoning varies, depending on political or philosophical outlook, but the conclusion is surprisingly unified: the upper limit of healthy growth is between 22 percent and 25 percent a year, which has been the actual level of average growth since the early 1970's.

Not since the Civil War has economic growth been so weak for so long. Generations of Americans had got used to better performance, and changing that expectation, even after 20 years, is not easy, especially for Presidential candidates.

Economists think differently. Only marginal improvement is possible, they say. If the Federal Reserve would tolerate lower interest rates, for example, then perhaps the upper limit of economic growth might rise a bit for a while Senator Dole's balanced budget and Mr. Clinton's education and job training proposals might each add two-tenths of a percentage point to the growth rate - five or ten years from now. And why can't we get more growth? Alan

Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, has argued that the nation lacks the capacity, in manpower, machinery and efficiency, to produce much more without causing bottlenecks and shortages that drive the inflation rate to unacceptable levels.

Productivity is the key to expanding capacity. When workers are equipped with the right machinery and know-how, their productivity rises. The same workers can produce 104 widgets this year, up from 100 last year, and 108 widgets next year, all at essentially the same cost. Replicate this rise across the nation, and the phenomenon known as the booming 1960's occurs.

But investment in machinery has been concentrated in recent years in computers. And so far computers have not yielded the rapid growth in production that came from investments in railroads, autos, highways, electric power and aircraft - all huge outlays, involving government as well as the private sector, that changed the way Americans lived and worked.

That raises the question of what might someday allow greater productivity and, as a consequence, a return to 1960's-style economic growth. The two favorite answers are more public investment, despite the deficit, and a huge swing away from consumer spending. What now pays for jeans and Caribbean vacations would be saved instead, and used for machinery and the other tools of a busy economy.

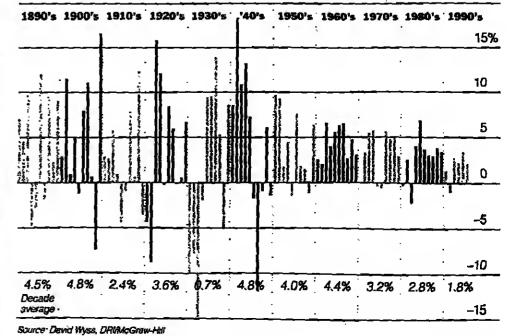
Bad Investment?

There are flies in these answers, duly noted by economists. Why, for example, invest in machinery here when the same equipment, placed in China or Spain, might earn a better return now that these nations' workforces are becoming as proficient as Americans? And why try to raise the potential growth rate of the U.S. economy if all the extra production can't be sold?

Whatever the answers, the conclusion is the same: much less economic growth well into the 21st century than the candidates are suggesting in this election year. "That is a sobering outlook," Mr. Kristol said, "and maybe some of that sobriety should be introduced into the political debate."

A Century of U.S. Economic Growth

Change in the gross domestic product of the United States each year, after inflation had been factored out.



Ideas & Trends

Hoist on Their Own Ad Campaigns

By STEVEN GREENHOUSE

N the world of advertising, guerrilla warfare has broken out.

Example: The familiar shape of a vodka bottle is outlined in chalk at the blood-stained site of an automobile accident as a photographer and police investigator study the scene. In big letters at the bottom are the words, "Absolute End." The advertisement, an unmistakable parody of Absobut Vodka's ubiquitous ad campaign, notes that nearly 50 percent of auto fatalities are

Example: A glamorous blonde has a tied to alcohol.

The point it to make a hard-won image really disgusting.

mink coat wrapped around her and a look of alarm on her face. Above her are the words "What disgraces a legend most?" People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has run this takeoff on Blackglama's "What Becomes a Legend Most?" ads, which show Lauren Bacall, Diana Ross and Luciano Pavarotti, among others, decked in fur. Example: A teary-eyed child has blood dripping from both nostrils. "Milk. One

Awful Surprise," is written at the top of the ad. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters is using this image in fliers and soon on billboards to urge shoppers to boycott milk processed by Farmland Dairy, a New Jersey company the union is striking. The picture spoofs the dairy industry's promotional campaign, which shows stars like Pete Sampras with milk mustaches and the line, "Milk. What a Surprise!"

In these three advertisements the strategy is identical: grab the attention the enemy has generated with images that it pumped millions of dollars into.

Kalle Lasn, president of the anti-alcohol group that ran the parody of Absolut vodka, "We are using the power of their multimillion-dollar campaign for our purposes and against them like a judo move. Even though we're little, we take a big large corporation, and we use these images to slam them on the mat like a judo move."

Mr. Lasn's group, the Media Foundation, which is based in Vancouver, uses shock ads to fight what it sees as three scourges of society: smoking, alcoholism and rampant consumerism. His foundation designs and distributes these ads, hoping that alternative newspapers throughout North America will publish them. One recent offering, a parody of Kool cigarettes, shows a tanned, snazzily dressed young man smoking, next to the words, "Utter FOOL." A Bostonbased anti-smoking group called Infact is using a similar strategy with its ad showing the Marlboro man who has half his face turned into a skeleton.



The anti-Blackglama message.



The not-really-Kool message.



When

BY SAUL HANGELL

THE REAL PROPERTY.

March 11-15: Ste

The drunk-driving-kills message.

This technique is, of course, one way for the small-fry nonprofits to compete with their large corporate adversaries. Mr. Lasn said that an anti-alcohol group might spend \$100,000 a year on advertising, while beer, wine and spirits producers spend \$3 billion.

Ron Carver, the mastermind of the teamsters' bloody takeoff on milk mustaches, said these guerrilla advertisements also aim to debunk the hip, wholesome or glamorous images that companies have built through millions of dollars of advertising.

"These companies are spending tens of million of dollars creating good will," said Mr. Carver. "We want to expose the companies for the mean-spirited treatment of their

The teamsters have also used attack ads against the Miller Brewing Company. Upset that Miller had dismissed several delivery. men in Connecticut, the teamsters ran an ad mocking Miller's new microbrew, Red Dog. Using a picture of a dazed bulldog, the ad "Red Dog Bites" and "Don't buy Miller products!

Not surprisingly, some corporate targets

see these ads as hitting below the belt. Kurt Graetzer, who runs the milk industry's mustache campaign, said he did not mind when a Dracula movie directed by Mel Brooks used a vampire with a mustache of blood to advertise itself. But kids with bloody noses are something else, he said.

It Starts Hurting

"Some ads boom all of a sudden, and then what happens is kind of out of your control,' he said. "The parodies start hurting what you've spent a lot of money doing."

He was especially critical of the teamsters' use of children who look abused. 'It's turned a lot of people off," he said.

Nonetheless, milk industry officials acknowledged that they would probably get nowhere if they brought trademark or copyright lawsuits to stop the ads.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals is about to begin using another ad spoofing milk mustaches. The animal protection group is fighting a drug called Premarin, an estrogen substitute extracted

from the urine of pregnant mares. The group complains that the mares are deprived of water to keep their urine concentrated and that their foals are taken from them. The new ad shows the comedienne Sandra Bernhard with a yellow mustache. It reads, "Urine. What a surprise!"

"We're living in tabloid times," said Daniel Mathews, director of the animal group's campaign. "The more shocking and eyecatching an ad the better."

Carla Lloyd, chairwoman of Syracuse University's advertising department, praised the strategy.

"The advertising industry has invested a lot in getting a piece of a person's mind," she said. "They invest in a little piece of cerebral storage up there. When you spoof an ad, you're tapping into that memory and you're putting your own spin on it. It's

Most of the people in this country are cynical about advertising anyway," she said. "They grew up watching spoofs of ads on 'Sesame Street.' These ads are in tune with how people think about advertising."

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Court Agrees Not to Agree

Continued from page 1

she summoned church practitioners to administer prayer rather than a doctor to administer insulin. The case prompted a wrenching public debate over the proper roles of church versus state in such cases.

• Martin v. Major, a "right to die" case from Michigan, where the state Supreme Court had refused to honor a man's stated desire not to live "like a vegetable"; the man's catastrophic neurological injuries did not place him in a clinical "vegetative state," the Michigan court said, so the view he had forcefully expressed to his wife before his accident was irrele-

No doubt there were valid reasons to turn down some of these cases - procedural flaws, gaps in the record or absence of a lower-court conflict. Secondguessing the Court on the basis of an anecdotal data base is tricky.

Sitting Silently

But there is a pattern here, as well as an occasional indication that the Court is not being candid about its actions. Last year, for example, controversy simmered throughout the country over the appropriate role, if any, for prayer at public school graduations. The Court had ruled in 1992 that members of the clergy could not lead prayers. Could students? Lower Federal courts have disagreed on the answer. But for months last spring, the Court sat silently, refusing to act on a closely watched appeal that an Idaho school district had filed from a ruling invalidating a policy permitting students to lead prayers at graduation. The Court waited until late June, when the student who had brought the original lawsuit had graduated, and then issued a one-sentence order vacating the lower court's ruling as moot, leaving the issue unresolved.

The Court bad split 5 to 4 in the 1992 prayer case, and that bitterly fought decision, Lee v. Weisman, remains an unhealed wound that the Justices collectively may simply lack the appetite to reopen. The same might be said for cases concerning abortion.

Or something else may also be at work, a kind of gridlock of competing strategic considerations that has limited review of heavily freighted free speech, religion and other cases where the Court is sharply split or simply unpredictable. With the Court deeply divided over questions of due process and privacy, the assisted suicide case could well become a victim of such a strategic gridlock.

While it takes the votes of only four Justices to grant review of a case, a fifth vote is necessary to prevail on the merits. The gap between four votes to grant and five to win can be huge, and Justices have been known to vote to deny cases if they were not confident the outcome would be to their satisfaction.

In an insightful book, "Deciding to Decide: Agenda Setting in the United States Supreme Court" (Harvard University Press, 1991), H.W. Perry Jr., a political scientist at the University of Texas, called such strategic actions "defensive denials." That Mr. Perry found such behavior when he studied the Court in the late 1970's indicates that the phenomenon is hardly new. It may even have been more prevalent when the Court was more sbarply split along ideological lines than it is these days, when an overall dearth of cases places each missed opportunity in sharper relief than in the past.

Light Schedule

From the 7,000 new appeals filed this term, the Justices will issue, at most, 74 decisions, down from a peak of 151 in the early 1980's and the fewest since the 1953-54 term. Since the term began in October, the Court has handed down 23 opinions. Ten years ago, the Court could not have accommodated many more cases than it was taking, while now there are yawning gaps on the calendar: only 10 cases are available to fill the 24 slots on the March argument calendar, for example. Next term's calendar, now under construction, looks equally light.

Does that mean the Court has room for the assisted suicide case? Without a doubt. Does the Court have the will and appetite to step back into the spotlight of a major societal debate? At least for now, that is the

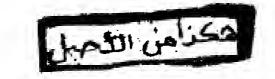
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ECONOMY

When Bad Credit Risks are Good For Business

By SAUL HANSELL

NASHVILLE HE neon signs promising fast cash" flicker from dusty brick storefronts as they have for 50 years on this narrow stretch of Church Street known as Loan Alley.

It's lunch hour on a brisk but sunny winter day as a handful of people line up at World Finance to borrow a few hundred dollars or to drop off a few \$20 bills as payment on their old loans.

And the state of

World Finance's customers are too financially strapped to be welcomed by Nashville's big banks just up the hill. But Angela Myers, the loan officer behind the counter, greets each one by name with a warm smile - and offers to lend cash on the spot to the most creditworthy among them. Never mind that the company charges an effective interest rate of close to 90 per-

On Loan Alley, as all across America, the business of making loans to poor credit risks at high interest rates is growing rapidly. And as more companies discover the huge profits that can be made from the economically downtrodden, national lenders are invading a field that was once the province of mom-and-pop operations. In just the last few years, growing national chains bave snapped up half of the independent loan offices here on Loan Alley.

They are discovering a virtual army of the walking credit-wounded, as the casualties of the last decade's corporate downsizings join the millions of low-income Americans who have always lived on the edge. Thir-

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Belgium

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Britain

Canada

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

Ireland

Japan

Malaysia

Mexico

Norway

Spain

Sweden

Singapore

Netherlands

New Zealand

South Africa

Switzerland

United States

Pacific Basin

Europe/Pacific

Exchange rate

Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar

COMPOSITE INDICES

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Hong Kong

ty percent of American adults fail to qualify for traditional credit cards, according to Equifax, the credit-reporting agency. And the ranks are growing as personal bankruptcy filings surge to near-records and continuing corporate layoffs turn more people with previously pristine credit into unwilling deadbeats.

As business picks up for these high-cost loans, dozens of new finance companies have issued stock to the public, and many banks and other top-tier lenders have started wooing borrowers they would have snubbed a few years ago.

The profit margins can be two or three times those on ordinary bank loans. But default rates are generalty much higher, too, and if lenders miscalculate, they can quickly find themselves as financially vulnerable as their customers.

This is a business that is not for the faint-hearted," said Edward A. O'Neal, executive vice president of the Bank of Bostoo, which owns several finance companies that aim at lower-quality borrowers.

The fastest-growing sector of high-risk lending these days is the used-car business. Dealers have been searching for ways to unload swollen inventories, and a raft of new finance companies, led by Mercury Finance in Northbrook, Ill., are providing the capital. Meanwhile, established financial-services giants, including Keycorp in Cleveland, Bank of Boston and Nationsbank in Charlotte, N.C., bave bought their way into the business, while the Ford Motor Company and General Electric are starting up their own operations to cater to high-risk horrowers. Another growing area is home

NORWAY INDEX

WORLD INDEX

in U.S. dollars.

YTD YTD Dividend

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Source. Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Enday's London close © 1996 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's 0.4

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CURRENCIES

loans to troubled borrowers. Contifinancial of New York City and the Money Store of Union, N.J., two specialists in this business, have grown briskly over the last five years by lending to people whom most banks wouldn't touch. But mainstream banks are taking a mixed approach to what can be a tough business. Barnett Banks of Jacksonville, Fla., for example, recently bought a finance company that caters to highrisk customers, while Fleet Financial of Providence, R.L. is selling out after taking heat for evicting lowincome home-loan customers.

And credit-card issuers from First Union Bank in Charlotte to the Fingerhut catalogue empire in Minnetonka, Minn., are mailing cards to people who declared bankruptcy and to others they had previously snubbed.

For the borrowers, this trend is a decidedly mixed blessing. There are people who can now own homes and drive cars who just a few years ago would have had to rent apartments and take the bus. Moreover, those with blemished records bave the opportunity to re-establish a good credit rating and thus qualify for lower rates in the future.

But the interest rates on these loans are shockingly high.

For mortgages, they generally run around 12 percent, compared with 8 percent for standard borrowers. Car loans often exceed 20 percent and can go as high as 30 percent. Credit cards and personal loans carry rates well in excess of 20 percent. What's more, fees, insurance charges and other hidden costs can pile up, making the effective interest rates truly exorbitant.

For example, car dealers often pay a fee of 5 to 10 percent to finance companies, and pass the cost on to the buyer in the form of a higher

price. Take Diane and Kevin Cunard of Brentwood, Calif. They say they unwittingly falled to pay \$3,500 in medical bills on time for their daughter's broken arm. Though their tardiness didn't hinder them from getting a mortgage on a home last December, it disqualified them from bank credit for a new car and forced them to take out a finance company loan at 21 percent

'I figured once you pay your credbills they would give me a second chance," said Mrs. Cunard, 33, a cafeteria worker in Oakland. "They Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries. do give you a second chance - at 21 percent. We're paying \$5,000 interest on a \$10,000 truck."

Of course, the higher losses generated by such loans justify some of the higher rates. Just as inner-city residents pay more than suburbanites for everything from groceries to appliances, so are the the most economically distressed Americans least able to shop around for the best financing deals.

YTD

% Chg.

0.2

6.5

0.3

11.9

-0.5

50

7.7

7.2

-2.0

-2.0

11.1

3.1

65

-1.0

48

6.2

24

97

7.1

3.2

4.4

3.6

-0.6

28

Ago

89.05

1 3865

1.4117

1 5840

Index

170.21

138.24

152.32

276.03

219.01

153.95

228.26

178.84

147.50

131.20

412.59

231.25

85.62

99.02

527.14

8.997.33

212.47

64.04

207.81

281.84

335.34

155 41

335.75

180 22

169.80

262 23

175.97

110.66

135 39

174 92

% Chg.

+0.15

-0.81

-0.31

And not only do they pay more for loans, they get harsher treatment if they fall behind on payments. Collection calls start the day after the due date and are more frequent, and more insistent, than for bank borrowers. And the finance companies play hardball, repossessing from one to three of every 10 cars they finance, often in the dead of night.

Many of the people who work in these companies become inured to the stream of human tragedy they encounter. Some justify the rates they charge by convincing themselves that they are giving people down on their luck a second chance.

"Few customers blink over the rate," said Diane Hunter, who approves car loans for the Nashville office of First Merchants Acceptance Corporation. "They need a car to get to work to pay bills, so they do whatever they have to do."

Does that bother her? Not at all. 'The higher the interest we charge, the more money the company makes and the faster we grow," Ms. Hunter said matter-of-factly.

J. Dan Walters, the regional manager of the Loan Alley office of World Finance, takes a populist line, saying his company is lending a helping hand to the forgotten man and woman. "People say charging 24 percent is outrageous, but we're providing a oecessary service," Mr. Walters said. "Remember, our average loan is only \$500 for 10 months. Most banks won't talk to you if you don't want at least \$1,500."

Mr. Walters sits in a small office



with green walls and orange shag carpeting on the second floor of an aging Loan Alley building. Behind his desk is a map of Tennessee with 18 pins marking the locations of the offices that his holding company, the World Acceptance Corporation of Greenville, S.C., has bought or opened since coming to the state in 1993. The company serves clients who typically earn \$12,000 m \$17,000 a year, he said. Two-thirds previous-

ly had credit problems. World Acceptance is bringing bigbusiness techniques to a once-sleepy business. For example, it has ex-panded beyond straight loans into consumer goods, and offers customers a mail-order catalogue of TV's and stereos and the like that they can buy on the installment plan.

Yes, Mr. Walters acknowledges, the goods are marked up by 50 percent over the retail price in most stores. But, be said, that is still a better deal than going to rent-to-own shops, located mostly in poor areas, which charge high monthly "rental fees" for televisions, stereos and other appliances. These payments typically mount up to two or three times the products' retail value by the time a customer earns the right to take possession - assuming the items haven't been repossessed and rented

out for a second or third time. While loans and payments at World Finance are still recorded on tall manila file cards, they are now entered into a computer as well, enabling company employees to tell clients how much more they can borrow when they come to the office to reduce their debt by a few dollars. The secret of a finance company's success is repeat business.

Down in the storefront, a man in late middle age wearing a plaid shirt and a blue baseball cap approaches the desk and plunks down a handful of bills.

Ms. Myers, the loan officer, calls his name up on the computer screen and makes a quick calculation. Then she announces his new credit limit, enough to pay for a night on the town if he watches his pennies. "Robert, are you ready for some money today?" she asks brightly."You can have \$61."

This time, at least, Robert passes. 'It's not enough," he says.

Ecough of World Finance's customers have taken the bait, though, to make it a remarkably profitable business. In Tennessee, the company charges the state's maximum interest rate: 24 percent. But various application and monthly fees often triple the effective annual percentage rate - or A.P.R. - as calculated by the Federal government. And the company tries to add oo high-margin insurance policies as well.

"Robert is on disability and Social Security," Mr. Walters said after the customer had left. "He's never going to get a loan from a bank, but he can get one from us. We're the poor man's credit card."

The poor man and woman today however, can get a credit card much more easily than in the past. Fingerhut became the fastest-growing credit card company last year by offering Mastercards in the generally working-class shoppers who buy from its catalogues. Many of them would not have qualified for bank credit in the past, but Fingerhut and

Down 0.65%

203.01

161.09

\$396.90

+15%

Up 0.08%

Down 0.33%

others like it protect themselves by requiring some of the poorest customers to secure the cards with a savings account.

First Union even offers credit cards to people who bave declared bankruptcy, if they are willing to pay rates approaching 20 percent.

"There are ways to identify people who had a bankruptcy that was not within their control, as opposed to someone who is a born spendthrift," explains Fred M. Winkler, the head of the bank's credit card unit. First Union programs its computers to search for hints of good people caught up in bad circumstances. "If you see someone in California who made \$100,000, paid their bills on time, then went bankrupt in the last few years, it's a good bet they worked in aerospace when the defense industry went away," he said.

That willingness to take a chance with such people pays off handsomely on the bottom line. "These tend to get excited that someone is offering them a credit card again and they work hard to restore their credit history," Mr. Winkler said. As a result, their default rate is well below the average for all card holders. Some companies specialize in sav-

ing down-and-out homeowners from bankruptcy court by making first and second mortgages at abovemarket rates. Such lending increased 54 percent to \$5.8 billion last year at the Money Store, the fastexpanding finance company that focuses on people graded "B" - their credit is only slightly blemished on the scale used by bankers. Also booming are the 'hard money lenders' like the United Companies of Baton Rouge, La., which goes for people closer to the edge - "C" and "D" borrowers.

Nowhere has the boom in highcost, high-risk financing made a greater impact than on car lots. Ten years ago, potential buyers with black marks in their credit history couldn't even shop at the dozen sprawling dealerships on Gallatin Road north of Nashville.

These potential deadbeats were forced to turn to smaller used-car dealers that made their own loans, like Arrow Motors a few miles south on Gallatin. Arrow still caters to the down-and-out - and makes no bones about it. A 20-foot statue of an Indian out front proclaims "We Tote the Note." Some dealerships are known as mte-the-note lots or buy-here-payhere lots because customers drop off their car payments in person. The lots also have a reputation for selling old, cheap cars at high markups.

Bill Hall, Arrow's flinty founder, will not comment oo his markups, but nonetheless be says be is providing a service by customizing terms for his clients. Arrow often requires weekly or biweekly payments.

"Most of these people can't budget," he said. "So if you know you get paid on Friday, you know you come here after work or Saturday morning to make your car payment."

Arrow charges interest of 24 percent interest, which is also, coincidentally, the percentage of the cars it repossesses from its customers.

Over the last decade, a lot of companies have found a profitable niche going after car buyers whose credit

rating is too iffy for bankers but not so awful that they must pay the interest that places like Arrow Motors charge. One of the first of these was Mercury Finance, which pioneered the practice of buying loans from dealers and assuming all risk of default - in return for a fee of 5 to 10 percent of the purchase price. That fee, and interest rates of more than 20 percent, cover the company's inevitable bad loans.

Mercury, which has grown to \$2 billion in loans outstanding, specializes in loans for the least expensive used cars, averaging \$6,000. Mercury has built its auto-lending empire like a finance company, with sales, credit decisions and collections all handled by local managers - a far cry from the computerized creditapproval process used by most banks. And Mason Croft, manager of the company's Nashville office, said that was a big plus for horrowers with honest hearts and empty wal-

A credit bureau will not tell you a person stopped paying his credit card bills after his daughter got leukemia," Mr. Croft said. "And it won't say that she died after a year and a half of medical bills and now he's fine. A bank simply won't lend to that sort of person." In contrast, be says, Mercury calls every applicant to ferret out the story behind their

troubles. The same sort of sleuthing has the extra advantage of spotting deadbeats that banks might miss, Mr. Croft said. "I just got an application from a guy whose car was reposlay." he said. "The application looked fine, except no current car was listed, so I got suspicious." So be called around until he found the dealer who had just taken back the car.

Skepticism is a survival tool for companies like Mercury. Loan applications, after all, come from usedcar dealers, whose interest is only in making a sale. Lenders say they frequently catch dealers inflating the collateral value of their cars and even coaching applicants to overstate their income. In a particularly pernicious practice, called "pick pays," the dealer secretly lends customers money, also at a high interest rate, to use as down payments. Because the borrowers haven't used their own money, they are less likely to keep up with their payments.

Dozens of companies have sought to replicate the success of Mercury, a company whose stock has returned 40 percent annually since the start of 1990, compared with 13 percent for the overall market. Many bave emerged to serve buyers of the more expensive late-model used cars that are flooding the market because of the leasing boom. For relatively creditworthy customers, companies like the Money Store will charge 17 percent interest and no fee. For more questionable horrowers, lenders like First Merchants and Americredit charge from 18 to 23 percent and tack oo a fee of 5 to 10 percent for the dealer. The dealer, in turn, steers the client toward cars that can be sold with higher markups.

For the least creditworthy, firms like Credit Acceptance Corporation of Detroit concoct complicated formulas that force the dealer to share some of the risk.

German marks to the U.S. dollar Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar +0.24 1.5235 1 5272 U.S. dollars to the British pound Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets: erchange rates as of Friday's New York close SKWOO OKK SOU

March 11-15: Stocks Steady a Week After Plunge, but Bond Yields Inch Higher DOMESTIC BONDS l European stocks PRICES -Up 0.26% DOMESTIC EQUITIES F.T.-Actuaries Europe Treasuries 186 00 Up 1.25% Ryan Labs. Total Return Asian stocks' Broad market 641.43 Down 2.46% F T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin S.& P. 500 index Municipals 11281 Up 2.09% Bond Buyer index 5,584.97 Down 0.18% Blue chips New York cash price Dow 30 industrials Corporates Merrill Lynch Master index 792.24 Up 1.84% Foreign indexés are shown in dollar terms Small capitalization 325 Dê Russell 2000 index +15% +:5% 90-DAY RELATIVE TREND

IELDS		OTHER INVESTMENTS		
Long bonds 30-year Treasuries	6.73% Up 1 basis pt.	Money market funds Taxable average	4.73% Down 6 basis pts	
Short bonds 2-year Treasuries	5.88% Up 14 basis pts.	Bank C.D.'s 1-year small savars	4.67% Up 3 basis pts.	
Municipals Bond Buyer index	6.06% Up 18 basis pts.	5tocks S.& P. 500 dividend yield	2.24% eid Down 3 b.p.	
100 basis points = 1 percentage 90-DAY RELATIVE TREMI Change in basis points.	450	Change in basis points.	+150	
	~# ·	s natha in a liellad at with T.S.		

The New York Times

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China's Military Power

As China flexes its military power in the Talwan Strait, the immediate concern is that Beijing has rashly concluded the threat of force is a legitimate way to pursue its political objectives with Taiwan. The longer-term and more serious worry is that these exercises may be the first sign that China intends to use its rapidly growing military power to intimidate its neighbors throughout Asia.

A new Chinese assertiveness would not necessarily directly threaten the United States. But Washington must adjust its own policies to protect American allies in the region and to make sure that China does not weaken the peace that has made possible the long Asian economic boom.

Beijing's leaders want their country to be a military as well as economic power. They see China as an increasingly dominant force in East Asian affairs by the end of this decade.

China's current military buildup began in the late 1980's. The loyal army commanders who helped Deng Xiaoping crush the Tiananmen Square democracy movement claimed their reward in the form of increased military budgets. Now, as the next generation of political leaders maneuvers to succeed Mr. Deng, they continue to court army leaders with generous budgets and policies favored by the military, like the exercises off Taiwan.

Since 1989, while most countries have been reducing their defense budgets, China has increased its military spending by more than 50 percent, most of it devoted to military modernization. Beijing wants to improve the fighting capacity of Chinese ground units, extend the range of its jet fighters and develop an oceangoing navy.

China's military forces are the world's largest, but not the best equipped. There are 2.9 million active-duty troops. They can call on about 9,000 tanks, 5,000 fighter aircraft, 500 bombers, 50 surface warships and 50 submarines. China also has more than 400 nuclear warheads, 70 of them mounted on intermediate-range missiles and 17 on intercontinental missiles capable of reaching the Western United States.

But China's ground forces fared poorly against Vietnam in 1979 and have not been much improved since. Most of its fighter aircraft are old. Its navy has no aircraft carriers.

Yet current spending and acquisition patterns could change that picture by the end of the decade. China has begun repositioning its ground troops to coastal regions and modernizing their organization and equipment. It has just signed a deal with Moscow to let China produce advanced Russian jet fighters and is working to develop a nuclear-missile-carrying submarine force.

What matters most is how Beijing uses its new strength. One troubling possibility would be an extension of the bullying tactics now being used against Taiwan to such disputed areas as the oil-rich South China Sea or places like Vietnam. Mongolia, Korea and eastern Siberia that were ruled or coveted by Chinese emperors in the distant

Washington's goal should be to incorporate China more fully into the international system of nuclear arms control and encourage it to satisfy its ambitions primarily in economic terms. That means seeking friendly relations but being prepared to anger Beijing and interrupt trade if American interests are threatened.

America's China policy, premised on economic development and common foreign interests, cannot survive a long-term Chinese turn toward belligerence. That turn may have started this month in the Taiwan Strait.

Times Readers Help the Neediest

stories about the city's 100 neediest cases, 117 shared their memories of being new immigrants in readers responded with contributions of \$3,630. a strange land. Others remembered tough child-Thus began a long chronicle of public-spirited gen- hoods. Many were simply moved by stories of erosity toward New Yorkers whose lives have spun out of control, whether through loss of work, drug addiction, physical abuse, mental illness or other unhappy circumstances.

New Yorkers continue to give to The New York Times Neediest Cases Fund in generous measure. This year, 12,927 readers contributed \$4,815,609, the second-highest total in the fund's history, exceeded only by record contributions of \$5,083,550 in 1991-92. Contributors ranged from young children who saved part of their allowance or gave up a Hanukkah present to contribute to the fund to Wall Street analysts and family trusts.

Many gifts were accompanied by touching letters in which the donors mentioned their love of New York and their desire to give something back to the city. Others wrote about experiences that had

In 1912, when The Times published its first taught them about being needy and alone. Some people who only needed a small, practical gesture to make it through hard times.

It is this sort of empathy that makes a city like New York, for all its troubles, a humane place to live. The Times thanks its readers once again for their generosity.

This year's campaign has ended, but the fund accepts contributions throughout the year. From now on, contributions will be credited to next year's campaign. The money contributed to the fund goes through seven private agencies to people in need. Nothing is kept for administration. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Checks should be made payable to The New York Times Neediest Cases Fund and mailed to P.O. Box 5193, General Post Office, New York,

Editorial Notebook

Senator D'Amato's Popularity Problem

Alfonse D'Amato's 16-year career as New York's junior Senator has been an unremitting quest for the respect of his Washington peers. Its more mundane theme over the

last half-decade has been an unremitting quest for a 50 percent voter approval rating. Lately, be would be bappy to settle for 40.

The paradox of the Senator's career is that the more influential he grows in Washington, the less popular he gets in New York. That was driven home by this month's Republican Presidential primary. Mr. D'Amato, a leader in the Dole Presidential drive, becomes more important the closer the Kansas Senator gets to the nomination. But he was nowhere to be seen during Mr. Dole's local campaign stops outside Long Island. While Mr. D'Amato was powerful enough to deliver his state's 93 delegates, he was also a potential liability in public appearances. Primary exit polls showed that even Republicans so regular they came out in the sleet to vote approved of Mr. D'Amato by only the narrowest of

The same week Mr. D'Amato's candidate was winning New York so bandily, the Quinniplac College Polling Institute announced that the Senator's own statewide approval rating bad dropped to 34 percent, and that Mark Green, who lost to him badly in 1986, would beat him easily if the election were held now. Reformers speculated hopefully that voters were expressing their disgust at the Senator's attempts to keep all the other Republican candidates off the ballot. But the Senator's had showing was only the latest in years of lousy polls. When the Marist Institute for Public Opinion took the Senator's political temperature six months ago, he received a 31 percent approval rating and only 5 percent of the voters ranked his performance as "excellent," while 26 percent thought it was downright "poor." The Marist poll, in fact, has not shown Mr. D'Amato above 40 percent since mid-1994, when he sang "Old MacDonald Had Some Pork" on the Senate floor in an attempt to kill

Federal crime prevention programs. The trajectory of Mr. D'Amato's voter approval ratings makes it clear that the late-1980's ethics investigations into the Senator's alleged misuse of his office hurt him badly, and Mr. D'Amato has not found a way to repair the damage. The voters had grown to like the original D'Amato version of himself — the scrappy little guy who brought home pork, wore polyester suits and

seemed no more, and maybe Is He Looking for Love even a little less, suave and sophisticated than his constitu-In All the Wrong Places? ents. While the ethics charges never led to a finding of illegal-

ity on the Senator's part, they did give his constituents a new, less down-home vision of Mr. D'Amato as a wheeler-dealer doing business with Puerto Rican housing developers and big defense contractors who could

make large contributions to his campaigns. Since then, Senator D'Amato has worked very hard to create an image of himself as a serious statesman and power within the national Republican Party. His performance as head of the Whitewater investigation has been relatively somber and dignified. He has built New York's Republican Party into an aggressive, efficient

vote-getting machine. What the Senator has not been able to do, however, is craft a new version of himself that the voters back home would like as well as the original. Heading the Whitewater probe has impressed many capital insiders. But it may play differently in New York, where the Clintons are popular. Voters who are concerned that the Senator spends too much quality tima with lobbyists and campaign donors may not be assuaged by the fact that be is doing a good job investigating another polincian's short-

Never a man to be counted out, Mr. D'Amato proved in 1992 that he was more popular as a candidate than as a Senator. Saddled with an approval rate around 33 percent, he still managed to defeat Robert Abrams, a candidate so inept he failed to come up with a position on the Persian Gulf war until bostilities were over. Still, in an industry where good polls are more important than good character or good ideas, the paradox of Senator D'Amato's recent career is causing many people, even in

Washington, to scratch their heads. Constituents tend to love their legislators as they become more powerful because they understand that influence will translate into good things for the bome district. But since the Democrats took over the While House, New York's old Senator Pothole has become an anti-pork crusader, loudly doing battle against legislation like the crime bill and urban initiatives that would bring money to New York. It may be that New Yorkers suspect that the benefits that accrue to the new, powerful Al D'Amato will be directed at someone other than GAIL COLLINS

Christians Can Still Accept Evolution Theory

To the Editor: Re "70 Years After Scopes Trial,

Creation Debate Lives" (front page, Those who argue for equal time for "creation science" make two signifi-

cant category errors. The first mistake is to label evolution uncertain, even hypothetical, simply because it is regarded as a "theory." Most laymen do not know that scientists use the word "theory" to indicate any accepted model or explanation for a set of phenomena.

Ask physicists if the theory of relativity still needs further confirmation, or ask chemists if the atomic theory is uncertain, and they will assure you that these explanations are regarded as factual by all professionals in their field. So also with the theory of evolution: biologists, virtualfy without exception, regard evolution as confirmed by massive favorable evidence, even as there are live-

Your March 12 article (front page)

about the Pentagon's plan to spend

\$1 trillion on the next generation of

jet fighters suggests that it puts "an

awful lot of eggs in one procurement

basket." How many eggs is that ex-

My corner store sells eggs for \$1.89

a dozen. Thus, \$1 trillion would buy

about 6.35 trillioo eggs. Total United

States egg production in 1994 was

almost 74 billion, so it would take

almost 90 years to produce the Pen-

tagon's eggs. Put another way, 6.35

trillion eggs represent more than a

lifetime supply for every living

American. Dividing the eggs among

all the world's five billion-plus inhab-

itants would eliminate starvation for

And what about the basket? An egg

carton measures about one-tenth of a

cubic foot, so the "procurement bas-

ket" would bave to hold 50 billion

cubic feet of eggs, Ignoring as always

the need for infrastructure, if the

basket were constructed in downtown

Manhattan, taking up an area 10

blocks by 10 blocks, its walls would

have to be considerably bigher

than the Empire State Building.

Like Wachtler, We All

Need to See Prison Life

"The Prison Odyssey of Sol

Wachtler" (Week in Review, March

10) contains an important message

for every American. In his journal

describing the experience of being a

Federal prisoner, Judge Wachtler

concludes very early in his days in

prison that writing legal opinions

about imprisonment doesn't begin to

prepare one for the harsh prison life.

If those who work in the criminal

justice system have no Idea what

being in prison is all about, why

should we expect the public to have

any understanding of those condi-

educating the public to the real psy-

chological and frequently physical

damage done to people imprisoned,

especially in view of the trend to pass

more laws requiring prison time for

nonviolent offenses and the support

Policy that fosters larger inmate

populations does not produce re-

formed citizens but bitter, alienated

former prisoners, a good number

of whom will be less functional as a result of their prison experi-

The writer is dean, graduate studies, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

BARBARA RAFFEL PRICE

New York, March 11, 1996

for mandatory sentencing.

tions and their impact on inmates? We need to do a better job of

To the Editor:

several years.

To the Editor:

ly disputes over the details.

The second error made by creationists is to believe that science and religion are exclusive categories. If virtually all biologists believe in evolution, and if many of them are deeply religious - and indeed I know many such examples - then one must accuse these thousands of people of being massively inconsistent, or one must give up the notion of any conflict between evolution and reli-

Cleveland, March 11, 1996 The writer is a professor in the Program in History of Technology and Science, Case Western Reserve U.

To the Editor: The problem with creationism is that there is a mountain of evidence to suggest that seven days, start to finish, is a tough case to prove. The creationists tell us that the first syllable of recorded time was a rather

A Tisket, a Tasket, a \$1 Trillion Jet Fighter

recent occurrence, placing the Golden Age of Greece and the Mesozoic Age in close proximity, conjuring images of Plato atop his trusty dino-On the other hand, the problem SAUT.

with evolutionism, which has become the generic term for Darwin's version of evolution, is that It posits a series of accidents that, given long enough time, arrange themselves into a miraculous complexity of organization known as Nature.

ALAN J. ROCKE To put it kindly, there is still much that we do not know and cannot explain. Perhaps the debate will rage on so long as the search for truth is superseded by the need to be right. In the meantime, we are always free to fill the gaps in our knowledge with a sense of STEVE SCHINDLER New York, March 10, 1996

To the Editor: Your page one article on March 10. on the seemingly "moderate" proposals to revamp and destroy science education illustrated well the feeling of belplessness and isolation faced by schoolteachers daring to teach evolution. More often, the pressure is much more local and less

liable to press coverage. But the anti-evolutionists do have opposition. The legal issues are typically taken up by the A.C.L.U. and the political ones by People for the American Way. In addition, the Na. tional Center for Science Education, a group of parents, scientists, teachers, ministers and writers based in El Cerrito, Calif., has taken on countless examples of typically bogus scientific claims used to justify public school creation "science.". This group, of which I am a board member, provides moral support and information to teachers and others opposing anti-evolutionism.

It is crucial that rational counterevidence be available in these debates because, legal issues aside, "scientific" creationism is terrible science, lousy public education policy and arguably bad theology as well. These creation "scientists" harm the interests of religious believers of all faiths who worship a Creator who does not need legisla-JOHN R. COLE Sunderland, Mass., March 10, 1996



It's absurd to imagine spending \$10,000 per household to buy a lifetime supply of eggs. But it's equally absurd to spend \$10,000 per household to buy a new generation of jet fighters when the nation already has the most advanced jet fighters in the world. Why, when the cold war has ended, do we continue to turn plowshares into DAVID FAIRLEY

San Francisco, March 13, 1996

U.S. Should Press for Peace in Chechnya

To the Editor:

Your news reports about the continuing Chechen resistance to Russian military occupation of that region make one wonder why the United States does not raise its voice more convincingly in favor of peaceful resolution of the Chechnya conflict. Unfortunately, the answer lies in the Clinton Administration's mistaken belief that remaining silent will belp President Boris Yeltsin be re-elected in June.

No one expects America to endorse extremist Chechen actions. Nevertheless, the continuation of the war in Chechnya belies all Russian

promises to negotiate its end. According to unofficial estimates. more than 20,000 civilians have died in the Chechnya hostilities since late 1994. It is impossible to learn how many Russian soldiers lost their lives in this senseless confrontation

The Administration's silence about the continuing Russian effort to destroy Chechen villages is irresponsible. It is also carefully monitored by the Islamic world, which sees the Chechens as its religious allies JOSEPH C. KUN

Director, Central European Studies Potomac Foundation McLean, Va., March 10, 1996

Serbia's Vojvodina Area Needs Protection, Too

To the Editor:

In their March 11 Op-Ed article 'Will Kosovo Explode?" Seymour Topping and Barnett Rubin suggest autonomy for Kosovo, Serbia's southernmost province, in order to reduce tensions in the region and protect the Albanian majority

Mr. Topping and Mr. Rubin did not mention the problems in another province of rump Yugoslavia: Voj-

Similar to Kosovo, this province is inhabited by Serbs as well as ethnic

Hungarians, Croats, Romanians, Gypsies and Slovaks.

In the last four years, Serbia has pursued cruel ethnic cleansing in Vojvodina.

Reprisals bave forced thousands of ethnic Hungarians and Croats to leave the province.

To save one of the last multicultural regions of the former Yugoslavia and to facilitate stability in the Balkans, we have to support autonomy not only in Kosovo but also in Vojvo-

PETER I. ORBAN Aachen, Germany, March 11, 1996

Giuliani Firmly Backed Palestine Peace Effort on Visit to Israel

Re "The Mayor's Clumsy Visit," your editorial of March 12:

Representing the New York Jewish Community Relations Council, we were pleased to accompany Mayor Rudolph W. Ghiliani on his recent trip to Israel We were there - Kenneth J. Bialkin, Judah Gribetz, Michael S. Miller, Merryl H. Tisch and I - to show solidarity with the Israeli people during their period of grief -

the true purpose of the journey. Mr. Giuliani was warmly received at each of nearly 20 stops on the 36bour itinerary. In our view, the remarks he offered at every venue were substantive, sincere and sensitive. They were not "clumsy." It was evident that he was moved, as were we, by the specter of the physical and emodonal devastation wrought by terrorism and murder.

Rather than "injecting himself" or intruding "in the delicate business of the peace effort," the Mayor was consistent in his firm support of both the peace process and Israel's efforts to combat terrorism.

His comments regarding Yasir Arafat, which were in response to a question from an Israeli reporter at a news conference, were reflective,

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shartened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic mail to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

not critical, of current Israeli policles in holding the Palestinian Authority responsible for combating MARTIN S. BEGUN President, Jewish Community

Relations Council New York, March 13, 1996

To the Editor:

Re your editorial "The Mayor's Clumsy Visit" (March 12) on Mr. Giuliani's visit to Israel: Mr. Giuliani's eviction of Yasir

Arafat from Lincoln Center during the United Nations celebration last fall and his statement this week questioning Mr. Arafat's reliability in stopping violence are unmistakable expressions that the Mayor feels, as do many Americans and Israelis, that Mr. Arafat's promotion from terrorist to statesman has moved too speedily for comfort.

The New York Times Company 229 West 43d St., N.Y. 10036-3959

ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER, Chairman Chief Executive Officer LANCE R. PRIMIS, President Chief Operating Officer DAVIII L. GORNAM, Senior Vice President Deputy Chief Operating Officer DIANE P. BAKER, Senior Vice President Chief Financial Officer

KATHARINE P DARROW, Senior Vice Pre LAURA J. CORWIN, Secretary RICHARD G. THOMAS, Transurer

Israel's security is of great interest to many New Yorkers and other Americans, and the Mayor has not betrayed us or Israelis with silence. as have other leaders in other dire times. Too often our political leaders' opinions are stifled by political "con-

siderations." If the Mayor is right (and I believe he is) in hesitating to trust Mr. Ara-fat, be will be vindicated by history. If he is wrong, we will owe him nothing less than our admiration and respect for speaking his mind on the JOSEPH A. KANOFSKY Boston, March 12, 1996

To the Editor:

You are right to roundly criticize Mayor Giuliani's latest political escapade in Israel (editorial, March 12). Following up on his United Nations gaffe last fall, the Mayor continues to use Yasir Arafat as a political punching bag in order to curry favor with conservative Jewish voters in New York City.

I don't suppose it has occurred to the Mayor that the city includes a significant and growing Arah (including Palestinian) population who may have a more favorable view of Mr. Arafat After all, unlike the Mayor, Mr. Arafat has received a Nobel

Peace Prize. Of course the Mayor's handlers have assured him that most Arab New Yorkers are not naturalized citizens and cannot vote in next year's election. That the Mayor so easily engages in such calculation explains why he remains not a leader of New Yorkers but just another politi-

GEORGE J. SCHNEPF New York, March 12, 1996

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O.K., I admit it.

principle.")

I miss Susan Thomases.

bair's intensity. I miss her industri-

al-strength liberalism. I miss her

prison matron demeanor. (She pre-

fers to call it her "strong reality

I miss her rabid maneuvering on

behalf of the First Lady. I miss her

name-dropping. I miss her builying

the little people. I miss her bullying

Al Gore. I miss the speed-dialing to

the White House that earned her the

nickname "Midnight Caller." I miss

her subtle career hints to colleagues,

along the lines of "If you do this, I

I miss her boasts that she was the

only person who could call the Presi-

dent "stupid" to his face. I miss her

knack for giving breathtakingly bad

The New York lawyer - dubbed

"the Clinton Administration's King

Kong Kihitzer" by The Washington

Post and the 'alleged kingpin of the

Hillary network" hy Esquire — may

not be cuddly. But she's certainly

Her demure facade and memory

lapses testifying before the Congres-

sicoal Whitewater hearings last Au-

gust were mesmerizing, but all too

hrief. She is no longer in the thick of

things. She will not, as originally

announced, be running the Clinton

The more colorful Friends of Bill

have been banished from the king-

dom. This is had news for us political

exegetes, who must make do with

less scintillating insiders like Robert

This White House started out with

such tacky splendor. There was

Ozarks-Hollywood producer Harry

Thomason swanning around with an

all-access pass, trying to throw trav-

el business to his friends. There was

his designing wife, Linda Blood-

worth-Thomason, scribbling a sit-

com to take revenge on the press.

There was Barbra Streisand, morph-

state dinners as a dating tool.

books about the Clintons.

(read Bill and Hillary).

ing into a political thinker and using

I was reminded how much duller it

is with Ms. Thomases on the side-

lines by her central role in two new

In the oovel "Primary Colors,"

she is the model for Lucille Kauf-

mann, a porcupine in power suits,

tennis shoes and Gloria Steinem avi-

ator glasses, a New York lawyer

friend of Jack and Susan Stanton

. Although we still don't know if

Ruhin and Warren Christopher.

re-election campaign in New York.

will kill you! I will ruin you!"

political advice.

<u>king-size.</u>

Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

Rocket Scientist

Foreign Affairs

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Bending The Mountains

Taipet, Taiwan As cities go, Taipei and Beijing have little in common. But having just traveled between the two, I found the mood in each eerily similar. In both capitals there is a dangerous hothouse political atmosphere, in which Taiwanese and Chinese politicians and generals, talking to themselves. have pumped themselves up with illusions and paranola about the intentions of the other side, so much so that it's scary. Both of these nations need a dose of reality — a two-by-four right across the side of the head to be exact — that probably only the U.S. can provide at this time.

In Beijing, it seemed as if every Chinese official 1 spoke to talked about "Senegal," the African state that recently opened diplomatic relations with Taiwan, severing ties with China. "Senegal? Senegal?" 1 would ask incredulously. "How can China, a great oation of 1.2 billion people, be worried about Taiwan's relations with Senegal?" It symbolized for me the depth of China's obsession with Taiwan and the creeping independence moves of Taiwan's President, Lee Teng-hui.

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In Taiwan, by contrast, I found a troubling calm. Despite the Chinese war games, Taiwanese seemed generally relaxed now that the U.S. Seventh Fleet is parked off shore. Indeed, the presence of the U.S. flotilla appears to have bred a certain cockiness here — an attitude toward China of "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?" President Lee even taunted Beljing, saying: "We are not wimps with weak feet." Not smart.

America cannot negotiate an end to this crisis. This is a civil war and only the people of China and Taiwan can sort out a solution. But what the U.S. can do, and must do, is be the reality

Get Taipei and Beijing talking again.

principle, setting the boundaries of what is permissible and showing both sides the pathway back to dialogue.

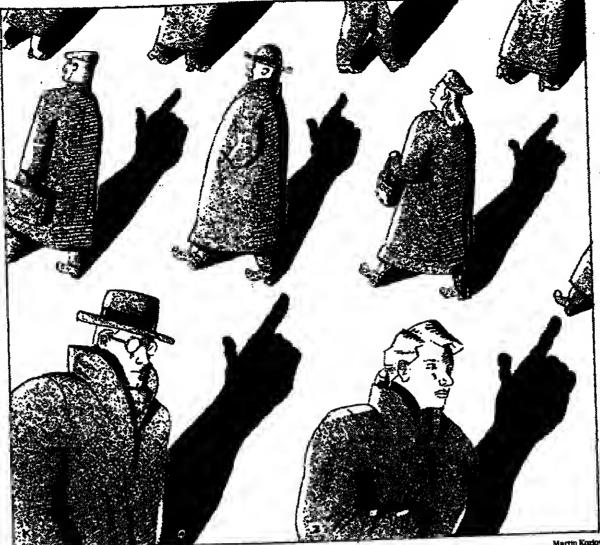
To Taiwan the U.S. message has to be: "Your economics has changed in remarkable ways. Your politics has changed in remarkable ways. But your geography hasn't changed at all, and it's not going to. You are still 21 million Chinese living next to 1.2 hillion and you have to reach an accommodation with them, because we're not going to park the U.S. Navy on your doorstep forever. Time is not on Taiwan's side in an atmosphere of confrontation with China China can keep up a level of tension against you that will sap your economic strength. "But time is on Taiwan's side in an

atmosphere of reconciliation. Because over the decades, if China stays on this free-market economic track, China will only become more like Taiwan, and Taiwan can play a major, and profitable, role in that transformation. When your election concludes next week, China will be listening carefully to what you say. Make a gesture that will calm Beijing's fears that Talwan is seeking a diplomatic identity that would be fully independent from China, forever. Say that President Lee has 'no plans' to visit the U.S. and that Taiwan has 'no immediate intention' m pursue membership in the U.N., and then offer to resume the dialogue."

To China, the U.S. message has to be: "We understand you have legitimate concerns about Taiwan's future, but get a grip on yourself. You can't just start shooting up the oeighbor-hood. If you go to war over Taiwan, your hopes for developing into a global economic power will be set hack for a generation. You say you want unity with Taiwan, but you can't force it. The people of Taiwan will only want to voluntarily unite with China if they see that you treat your own people and the people of Hong Kong in a way they find inviting. After Taiwan's election, you should declare that China has no 'plans' for more war games around Taiwan, and offer to resume

the dialogue." But while we can set the boundaries, they have to negotiate the core. There is still reason to hope that their common culture can triumph over their divided politics. As one of Taiwan's leading writers, Antonio Chiang, remarked to me, "all of these people are Chinese," and while they have their differences, their common culture has a deep strain of pragmatism - of finding ways to bend for the sake of stability and commerce. That's how Taiwan and China coexisted up to now. They don't recognize each other, yet Taiwanese husinessmen have invested \$24 billion in China. That didn't happen without a lot of subtle bends, winks and nods. That's the sort of diplomacy we need now.

"The Chinese have a proverb," said Mr. Chiang: "'If the mountain won't bend, then you bend the road, and if the road won't bend, then you bend yourself - somehow, we can aiways find a way."



The People's Holocaust

By Daniel Jonah Goldhagen

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. day in November 1942, at the height of the Germans' systematic slaughter of Polish Jewry, men serving in a battalion of about 500 reserve policemen learned that they would be undertaking yet another genocidal killing, this time of the Jews of Lukow.

That evening, according to one of the hattalion members, a peculiar thing happeoed: "An eotertainment unit of Berlin policemen ... were our guests. ... The members of this unit bad also learned of the forthcoming shooting of the Jews and indeed offered, even pleaded emphatically, for permission to participate in the execution of these Jews. This strange request was granted by the battal-These entertainers, like so many

other ordinary Germans, willingly killed Jews. Contrary to what is commonly believed, the Germans who xecuted Jews were not exclusively a select group of Nazi fanatics, not only members of the SS hut also tens of thousands of ordinary Germans from all walks of life.

A trove of files confirms this fact. During postwar legal investigations, the West German authorities interrogated tens of thousands of former killers and put a few thousand on trial. These records have heen used only selectively hy scholars, in part because they are scattered throughout the justice system and not stored m historical archives.

My extensive research into these files has produced a new portrait of the Germans who killed Jews and a new interpretation of the Holocausi

The number of Germans working in concentration camps, ghertos, police hattalions and other institutions involved in the genocide was far greater than people realize. Although a definitive estimate is difficult to make, it is clear that in excess of 100,000 Germans, and prohably far more, helped exterminate European

A few figures provide a sense of the vastuess of the genocidal machinery. For instance, it has been documented that more than 10,000 camps of various sizes and kinds existed throughout Europe for incarcerating and destroying Jews and non-Jews. These camps required an enormous staff.

The German governmental agency in charge of investigating Nazi crimes has catalogued more than 333,000 people suspected of working in the various institutions that were used to kill Jews and others. For example, there were 38 police hattalions, with a total of at least 19,000 men, that participated in the genocide. Most of these men were oot professional policemen or members

of the Nazi Party or the SS. The Nazi authorities, apparently acting oo the assumption that any able-bodied German would consent m kill Jews, assigned virtually anyoue who was available to the task. Their assumption was borne out.

any other Germans also supported the persecution and even the extermination of the Jews. They did so because anti-Semitism was a deep-rooted part of German culture - even before Hitler came to power. It was so widespread and virulent that many who resisted Hitler shared the prevailing demonic image of Jews.

Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, assistont professor of government and social studies at Horvord, is the author of the forthcoming book "Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinory Germans and the Holocaust."

In December 1941, the leadership of seven regional Protestant death of Jews. As President Roman Herzog of churches in Germany issued a proclamation that declared the Jews, ow-

many." It urged that the "severest measures against the Jews be adopt-It is not surprising therefore that the killers commonly believed that Jewish people were evil and dangerous in the extreme and therefore had

ing to their putative racial constitu-

tion, to he incapable of being saved by

haptism and and said they were the

"born enemies of the world and Ger-

to be eliminated. A police hattalion member who served in the Chelmno death camp explained in postwar legal testimooy: "It did oot at all occur to me that these orders could be unjust . . . I was then of the conviction that the Jews were oot innocent but guilty. I belleved the propaganda that all Jews were criminals and subhumans and that they were the cause of Germany's decline after the First World war. The thought that one should disobey or evade the order to particlpare in the extermination of the Jews did not therefore enter my mind at

A member of another police unit stated: "The Jew was not acknowledged hy us to be a human beiog." The Germans who killed Jews could have refused without risking

Not only SS troops killed Jews. Ordinary Germans did so eagerly.

death or punishment. They chose to kill. Many knew they could refuse. Their commanders told them so.

German courts have repeatedly concluded that during the Holocaust no German was ever killed, sent to a concentration camp, jailed or punished in any serious way for refusing to kill Jews. Heinrich Himmler, who was in charge of the extermination program, held that no German should be forced 10 do so.

The killers' anti-Semitism also explains why, with exceptions, the Germans typically acted with zeal, brutalizing and torturing their victims. As one police battalion member testified: "I must first and foremost state categorically that whenever the superior requested them, there were enough volunteers for execution

Many killers exhibited pride in their deeds, routinely taking photographs of what they did to Jews. A member of a police battalioo said such photographs "were laid out hanging on the wall and anyone, as he pleased, could order copies of them." He continued: "I too acquired these photographs through such an order, even though I had not always participated in the eveots that the photographs depict."

Few people believe that the Serbs who hutchered and hrutalized Muslims in Bosnia were forced to do so. Few believe that the Hutus who slaughtered Tutsis in Rwanda, the Turks who killed Armenians and the Khmer Rouge who decimated the Cambodian people thought that they were doing wrong.

Only when discussing the Holocaust do people routinely say that the killers were unwilling. This is odd, since so much evideoce demoostrates that the German killers were like those who committed other mass slaughters.

It is the killers themselves who tell us of their hasic voluntarism, of their routine and unnecessary cruelty, of their zeal in hunting down and murdering Jews, of their wives' and girlfriends' presence in the killing fields

and of their celebrations to mark the

Germany acknowledged before the Bundestag earlier this year, Nazi ideology had effects that "were so horrible, because it gradually became part of public opinion, because it was gradually injected into people's minds."

f after 50 years the President of today's democratic and fully transformed Germany can finally speak the paramount truth of the Holocaust - namely, that the anti-Semitic beliefs that inspired Hitler also inspired a good part of the German people during the Nazi era - theo everyone else should be able to do the same.

The inescapable, fundamental truth is that for the Holocaust to have occurred, an enormous number of ordinary Germans had to become Hitler's willing executioners.

Anonymous was a campaign insider, Clintonites call the portrait dead-on, even understated. I miss ber intensity. 1 miss ber

"Lucille was an old Susan friend with a disconcerting sense of ownership about the campaign," the Stephanopoulos-like narrator says. "She kibitzed by phone. Tiny things: She didn't like Jack's ties. She didn't like the color of the campaign posters. And larger things: The staff was stupid: disloyal; uncomprehending. She was an antic conspirer; she was out for blood . . . She was dangerous ... a woman without intuition or an-

Lucille has definite opinions about the press: "Treat them like the pigs they are. ... they're scum. They're the enemy - they're what's standing between us and vicinry."

In real life, Ms. Thomases handles

Desperately missing Susan.

the press with an equally deft touch. It was she who midwifed the other unflattering book about the Clintons - James B. Stewart's scalding examination of the Whitewater morass, 'Blood Sport''

Hillary Clinmn has called her friend "a brilliant strategist" and tactician. (Smart Women, Dumh Choices.) In fact, she is a klutz. She gets snared in her own traps. She persuaded Mr. Stewart to write the book that has ended up confirming the very reporting by The Times's Jeff Gerth that she had set out to

Mr. Stewart reveals Ms. Thomases' conversation with Vincent Foster the week before he died, indicating that he was unhappy with his marriage. Mr. Stewart writes that Mr. Foster was also worried about his deteriorating friendship with Mrs. Clinton, who, he felt, had gone from relying on him in Arkansas to treating him like a bumbling rube in Washington.

Asked hy Newsweek about her embarrassing backfiring maneuvers on "Blood Sport," Ms. Thomases said she regretted eocouraging Mr. Stewart to write it, noting, "We all make mistakes."

With friends like these, who needs Al D'Amato?

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How Frances McDormond Became 'Minnesota Nice'

By GRAHAM FULLER

OT all movie cops are nicotine-cured cynics with New York borough accents, or laconic, toothpick-chewing good old boys. Take Marge Gunderson, the police chief played by Frances McDormand in "Fargo," the new film written, produced, and directed by the brothers Joel and Fthan Coen

Set mainly in snow-blanketed Minnesota in 1987, this thriller is becoming eerier and eerier at the point that pregnant Marge eventually waddles into it. She wears a police cap equipped with ridiculous fur earflaps. She has a belly so big it seems it might burst. And she has an attitude so determinedly chirpy the film becomes unsettlingly hilarious.

Marge compounds her goofiness with a singsongy Norwegian-American accent and cozy relationship with her eccentric househusband, Norm (John Carroll Lynch). Her aura is that of a kindly neighbor who might pass muster doing the washing up — but definitely not the cleaning up - in a rural community rocked by three savage killings. Yet in the course of her investigation, sbe proves indisputably that she is as cool and capable as any lawman played by Al Pacino, Harvey Keitel or Tommy Lee Jones.

Ms. McDormand may be best known for her performance as a beauty parlor assistant who stands up to white bigots, including her Klansman husband, in Alan Parker's 1988 film "Mlssissippi Burning." It earned ber an Oscar nomination as Best Supporting Actress, an honor that was complemented with a Tony nomination for her Stella in a revival of "A Streetcar Named Desire" that year. Now she is drawing praise as the oddball conscience of "Fargo."

"Joel and Ethan wrote a great female character," Ms. McDormand said in a recent interview at a diner on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, near the apartment she shares with Joel Coen, her husband, and their adopted baby, Pedro.

"I've always told them they write great women, but that there's always something missing from them; they fall just short. But Marge doesn't. She has an inner life that is not immediately evident but which keeps revealing itself. As normal as her that people want to know more. Ms. McDormand, who was born in

about because they don't fully understand her.

"There's something scary about Marge that's hard to articulate," she continued. "She's simple and on-thesurface, but she's not naïve, and she's not innocent, because she's good at her job, which gives her contact with crime and murder. But she has absolutely no understanding of why people do the terrible things they do. Possibly sbe represents a certain feeling that you get from the Midwest, which I think Joel and Ethan felt growing up there It's called 'Minnesota nice.'

To emphasize her point, Ms. McDormand poured out a stream of hail-fellow-well-met greetings in Marge-ese, and then pondered, "But what's behind all that?"

Creating Marge's unflattering appearance did not faze her. "I err on the side of truthfulness," she said, 'so I didn't care how I looked as Marge. Joel was always telling me, 'You don't have to look that bad.' Because of my own insecurities about the way I look, I do sometimes sabotage the looks of my characters by making them as homely as possible. I've never done a glamour part. I'd like to some day, though I don't know if I could pull it off."

Ms. McDormand admitted that she may have modeled Marge's personality on that of her sister, Dorothy, a chaplain at a women's maximum-security prison; if so, it was probably an unconscious choice. She is an actress who does virtually no research for her roles. "f'm trained in the theater," she said, "and acting for me is about the imaginative life l create for myself, not about basing it on something real. I think that whatever I create becomes the reality for the audience."

Holly Hunter, who met Ms. McDormand at the Yale Drama School in 1980 and roomed with her in New York, attributes her colleague's facility as an actress to groundedness.

"Frances always had wonderful instincts," Ms. Hunter said, "She's grown into herself mightily over the last several years, but even when I first knew her I felt she had a real strong sense of who she was. Some actors say they don't know them-selves at all and that's why they act, because they can disappear into other people. But with Frances I think it comes from a sense of self."



Ms. McDormand, who acts in the theater and in films, sees herself as a character actor who is able to transform herself whatever the role

1957, is the daughter of Canadians, her father a Disciples of Christ preacher who led his family around the Midwestern Bible Belt during her childhood before settling near Pennsylvania. A voracious reader but otherwise an unenthusiastic student, she caught the acting bug playing Lady Macbeth during a high school production "I did the sleepwalking scene,"

she recalled, "and it was the first time I'd ever done anything that I felt was mine. I took it much more seriously than the other kids. When we were backstage, for example, 1 knew it was important to be quiet when other people were acting. It seemed like I knew the ethics of the theater environment intuitively. It became clearer and clearer to me that acting was the only thing I knew how to do.

Being able to do it wasn't that easy at first. "I went to my school careers counselors and said I wanted to be an actor," Ms. McDormand said, "and they didn't know what to do. They showed me catalogues with pretty campuses, and said, 'Oh, look, there's a theater building. Why don't you go there?' "I was completely naïve about the

business of being an actor. My fam-

ily didn't go to the theater or to the movies. We watched television, like every 1960's small-town American family, and I certainly never thought about being on TV. I thought I was going to be a classical actor in the grand tradition."

That was the direction she headed as the only theater major of her year at Bethany College, a small liberal arts college in West Virginia, and then in the graduate program at Yale, Later Ms. McDormand would perform with the O'Neill Playwrights Conference, but her first professional job was in 1982 in a troupe assembled by the poet Derek Walcott in Trinidad. Her second was playing the faithless wife of a Texas bar owner who decides to have her and her lover murdered in the sinuous 1984 thriller "Blood Simple."

"Holly Hunter and another friend told me they'd met these two really welrd guys and auditioned for a movie they were making," said Ms. McDormand. "I kept trying to get an audition for it and couldn't. When finally I did, they cast me."

One of the "two really weird guys" was Joel Coen; the other was his brother, Ethan. "Blood Simple" was their first film, and Joel and Ms. McDormand have been a couple

8 Listing

song

"Even 13 years later it's hard to admit that Joel and I met on a movie set," Ms. McDormand reflected. "But on 'Blood Simple,' we were both doing, for the first time, what we wanted to do for the rest of our lives." She also appeared in the Coens' comedy "Raising Arizona" (1987), supporting Ms. Hunter in her first star vehicle, and took a small role in their 1990 gangster yarn 'Miller's Crossing."

On working with his wife in "Fargo," Mr. Coen said they had had to make an adjustment from a personal relationship to a professional one in the first week of shooting.

Fran had Really good instincts with the character," he added, "but sometimes I think she may have felt she was pushing Marge's openness too far. That may have just been some insecurity, a need for feedback in terms of whether or not she was making the character real, as opposed to a caricature. But everything she did was grounded in reality and she bad no oeed to worry."

She was a tenacious civil rights activist caught up in sectarian violence in Belfast in Ken Loach's 1990 film "Hidden Agenda." She was fun-

ny and sexy as a flighty wife in Robert Altman's "Short Cuts" in 1993. In Gregory Hoblit's "Primal Fear," opening next month, Ms. McDormand is a neuropsychiatrist studying a young murder suspect, played by Edward Norton.

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Mr. Hoblit said one of Ms. McDormand's strengths is her ability to react to other actors. "She really listens, and all of her reactions are directly in response to what she's hearing or sensing," said the director, who once cast Ms. McDormand in a one-line role as a cocaine-abusing secretary in an episode of "Hill Street Blues." "They aren't memo-rized or rehearsed, although she can do them and over again."

Ms. McDormand sees herself as a character actor who is able to transform herself no matter the role.

"After 'Blood Simple,' everybody thought I was from Texas." she said. 'After 'Mississippi Burning,' everybody thought I was from Mississippi and uneducated. After 'Fargo,' everybody's going to think I'm from Minnesota, pregnant and have blond hair. I don't think you can ever completely transform yourself on film, but if you do your job well, you can make people believe that you're the character you're trying to be."

First Stop the Video Store tion shot for the square television

Alicia Silverstone

on tape).

would be a hit, theatrical interest in

"The Baby Sitter" revived, but by

then the video arrangements could-

n't be reversed (though the film did

have a brief showing at Film Forum

in Manhattan after it was released

More typical, the film that goes

direct to video bails from the B-

movie genres - horror, say, or

heavy action or the erotic thriller.

Now those old exploitational stand-

bys bave been joined by a new and

comparatively upscale category:

the straight-to-video sequel to the

big-screen hit. Unlike most genre

films, video sequels are the cre-

ations of the Hollywood studios,

which bave cautiously begun to ex-

periment with small-screen produc-

tions as a relatively inexpensive way

to follow up popular films without

Last year, for example, Disney's

"The Return of Jafar," the direct-to-

video sequel to "Aladdin," sold more

than 10 million copies. "Taking our

franchise animated characters and

doing additional stories theatrically

wouldn't work because of the long

ney vice president. Big-screen ani-

mators, she added, work on the cre-

ative cutting edge, and that can go

slowly. Extensive delay allows a hot

pler and can be completed more

cheaply and quickly.

incurring big-screen costs.

By PETER M. NICHOLS

AYBE it's no "Bonnie and Clyde," but for a while this winter credeotials seemed in order for "Normal Life," a small, independently produced film about a Chicago couple who rob banks.

It had an accomplished director in John McNaughton, who counts among his five feature films "Mad Dog and Glory," with Robert De Niro, Bill Murray and Uma Thurman, and the acclaimed "Henry: Portrait of a Serial Killer."

For stars it had Luke Perry and Ashley Judd, who, if not major bigscreen presences, are both known commodities and, according to those who saw screenings of the movie at the Sundance Film Festival in January, deliver strong performances.

It had a distributor, New Line Cinema, which supplied \$1.25 million of the movie's production cost of slightly more than \$3 million and later assigned the film to Fine Line Features, New Line's specialty film division. (Another \$1.8 million was put up by Spelling Films International, which holds the foreign rights.)

And there was some buzz. A dark tale of the American dream gone wrong, "Normal Life" is based on a true and complex story. "The movie is absolutely hypnotic," wrote one reviewer at Sundance.

Next stop, presumably, the cineplex or perhaps the art house. But then Mr. McNaughton's phone rang. "I got a call from the folks at Fine Line," he said recently. "They told me that for the good of all of us, it would be best not to release it theatrically but go straight to video."

Straight to video. "One step up from pornograpby," Mr. McNaughton said. For serious films and their directors, there is no acceptable fallback from a theater release. Even a token run for a short time in a few theaters legithmizes the project and lends cachet to the video, cable and foreign markets. No theater run at all is a disaster. "It says the picture turned out so badly it had to go to video," said Mr. McNaughton.

True, a quirk of timing or circumstance occasionally dumps a good little movie directly into video stores. Last fall, for example, it happened to "The Baby Sitter," a small and well-regarded film starring Alicia Silverstone, whose role in "Clueless" turned into a sensational star turn last summer. "The Baby Sitter" was made before "Clueless," and after it drew no interest from theatrical distributors, it was assigned to home video. When it became apparent that "Clueless"



budget," commented one distribu-To date the prime example of a

low-cost, live-action video sequel is "Darkman II: The Return of Durant." The original "Darkman," an action film starring Liam Neeson that gained a cult following when it was released in 1990, was written and directed by Sam Raimi, who produced the video sequel for MCA/ Universal

"They realized they had a property in their library they could use without risking a \$15 millioo production and \$20 million more for prints and promotion," Mr. Raimi said. On tape, "Darkman II," which cost between \$1 million and \$2 million to make and was released last July, is a good-looking and eotertaining follow-up. In keeping with the budget, Arnold Vosloo replaced the higherpriced Mr. Neeson in the title role.

To further save costs, "Darkman IIf" was shot at the same time and will be released in video stores later

this year. Mr. Raimi said he was ambivalent about straight-to-video sequels. "As a writer, I'm thrilled the 'Darkman' character lives on," he said. "As a director, I'm horrified someooe has taken my baby and made money selling it to children. And as the producer - one of those selling it to children - I think it's good for Universal to be doing this because they're taking their assets and pro-

crowd to video. "A video producer is likely interest." he said. lead time it takes to make these films," said Tania Maloney, a Dis-

ers don't discount that possibility, among them Roger Corman, the renowned nurturer of such major directors as Martin Scorsese and Jonathan Denime (both of whom got started making films that would have gone straight to video had they "The stigma has been erased," two "Honey" films, is in post-production. As with animation, live ac- said.

ACROSS "I'm Still in Love With You" singer 4 Dartmouth's Grammy-winning album "Dookie" Transportation Secretary Federico Biblical spy 20 Vaughan of jazz 21 Bundleup 22 Gulf oorth of 23 Japanese dog breed 24 Walleyed look 25 George Orwell's 26 Frog's lament, in 29 Carnival's end 30 Snow White's sister 31 Maiden's lack 32 Its capital is Asmara 34 Not neath 35 Attacked vigorously 38 Some heirs 39 Radio feature 41 — marchés (bargains) 42 Man with a bad hair 44 Suspect in Clue

47 Like the Owl and the Pussy-Cat's boat 48 Kind of section 49 Superabouod SI Not a dupl. 52 Non-Latino, maybe 103 Tom Jones sang this 53 1965 hit --- La La" 54 Simpletons

55 Sherlock Holmes

57 Thumbs-down

champs

64 Hideaway

ireland

74 Prehistoric

75 Kick out

80 Troubles

invention

77 Skip a syllable

79 Kind of crocodile

street talk

65 1973 Charlton

Heston sci-fi film

69 Paisley of Northern

70 Where to watch the

62 Drip

63 Blue

movie, with "The"

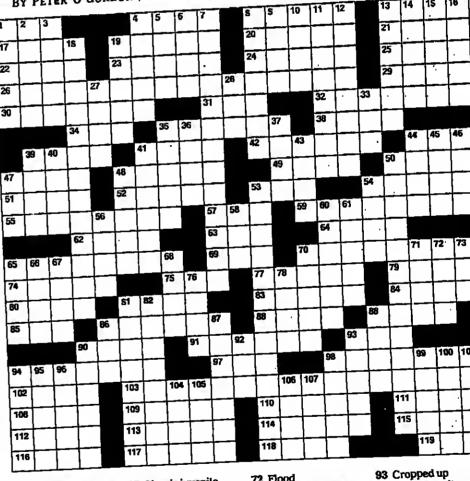
day?

viding quality pictures for the video

Even Mr. McNaughton doesn't hold a totally black view of straight to want a genre movie, and I'm sure there are young film makers coming up who can work within the genres and make something of merit and

g1 Attempt Some other directors and produc-83 "Egad!" 85 Unruly hair property to cool off. A different process, small-screen animation is simbeen made today). Mr. Corman, the president of Concorde-New Hori-Having tasted success with an animated sequel, Disney is venturing zons, which makes movies primarily straight to video with one of its live- for cassette, said that not only is there opportunity for new talent but action franchises; the new film "Honey, I Shrunk Everybody," with that higher-quality films are im-Rick Moranis, the star of the first proving straight-to-video's image.

COLOR ME IRISH! BY PETER O'GORDON / EDITED BY WILL MCSHORTZ



72 Flood 1g Classic juvenile 73 Graham and Joe, book by L. M. in 1967 76 Drive the getaway

10g Qualified 109 Simple people 110 Island with a Great 28 Box-social action 59 1995 college football 111 "Blondie" character 112 Precipitate 113 Crete's capital 114 Chopin offering 115 1969 Kingsley Amis novel, with "The" 116 Slave Scott 117 ---- a time

> dictionary, e.g. 119 Needle point? DOWN 1 "--- of star-crossed lovers" (Romeo and Juliet) 2 Resulted in

3 Inexperience 4 Like bricks 84 Bearded antelopes S Pelvic bones 8 Comes down with 86 Neglect to take 88 Amphetamines, in 7 Site of Lambeau Field 8 Gives in

11g Unabridged

89 One who works with 9 "Mon Oncle" meters and feet 90 World Cup org. 10 Rafsanjeni's land 91 Grad student's bane 11 Generosity 93 Strip bark? 12 Place to sit before 94 Army Vietnam going on group 13 Intermediate dojo

97 Med. specialty students 9g House of sale, to Shakespeare 14 Librarian's device 1S Separate 102 1971 Pan-American 16 Quidounc

Montgomery 19 Supply with dishes 27 City in Utah County

33 Caravansary 35 Cash, in slang 36 Indigo plant "Gadzooks," e.g. 39 Dynamic beginning 40 Kneecap, e.g. 41 Car hood, to a Brit 43 Base 44 Ginnie and Fannie

of finance 45 Take a flier 46 Hyson or 47 Bam's cousin 48 Kind of terrier 50 St. Patrick's Day

activity 53 Señor Ferrari player in "Casablanca" 54 Pluck 56 Winter air 58 Excellent bond rating

60 Slips past 61 1990 Best Actress 65 Used a natatorium 66 One of the three rivers of Three Rivers Stadium

67 Cry of pain 68 The legal profession, in slang 70 Singing voice 71 Best hand in baccarat

94 Work permit 95 Well-dressed

car, perhaps 78 Year B.C. in which Crassus died g1 Tex-Mex staple 100 Woodhouse and Peel of fiction 82 Sanitation eogineer 8g Interjection of

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"Heartbreak House"

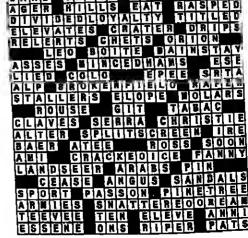
98 Bottom of a platter

99 Mediterranean oaks

coming aboard a ship

13





In the Supreme Court, sitting as o High Court of Justice, before jus-

tices Eliezer Goldberg, Yizhak

Zamir and Dalia Dorner, in the

matter of Ella Nazri, peritioner, versus the interior minister,

Solange Sluk and another, respon-

LLA Nazri bas lived with

have two children bearing the name Sluk. Sluk is married, but

has been separated from his wife

for more than seven years. He

instituted divorce proceedings to the Rabbinical Court which, after

some years, have not yet conclud-

Under section 16 of the Names

Law of 1956, the interior minister

is empowered to iovalidate a

change of name "if he is of the

opinion that the new name is like-

ly to mislead or to infringe public

policy or to offend the feelings of

Nazri applied to the ministry to

change her surname to Sluk, and

the ministry saw fit to ask Sluk's

wife if she agreed. She refused,

and on that basis the minister

invalidated the change on the

ground that it "infringed public

policy." Nazri then petitioned the

Supreme Court, sitting as a High

Court of Justice, to set the minis-

JUSTICE ZAMIR delivered the

first judgment of the court. The

ter's decision aside.

Yehuda Sluk as his reputed

wife for four years. They

dents (H.C.6086/94).

April 19, 1994). The court held in

that case that, although a reputed

wife taking her companion's name

could mislead some people into

thinking she was married, it was

not enough to justify invalidating the change. It also ruled the change alone did not infringe publications.

lic policy, and it set the minister's

The minister, he continued,

sought to distinguish Efrat's case

on the ground that the parties

there, though not divorced, had

reached a separation agreement

confirmed by the court. He sub-

mitted, therefore, that in that case

the parties themselves had put an

end to the family unit, while in this

case they were still legally mar-

The minister's counsel empha-

sized that not only were the

Rabbinical Court proceedings in

the present case still in progress,

but the wife seeks a reconciliation.

as she had also declared before

this court. The minister believed

that as long as the marriage could

be saved, it should be protected. Public policy demanded the pro-

tection of the institution of mar-

riage, and rejected a reputed wife's

right to assume her companion's

family name as long as he was married to someone else.

The court held in Efrat's case the

minister was obliged to examine

each application for a change of

name individually, and judge each

case on its merits. The minister's

counsel, in her summation, had

decision aside.

true the institution of reputed

spouses damaged that of marriage.

stances compelled the legislature

to recognize it time after time, and

to accord reputed wives several

important rights alike to those of

married women. It necessarily fol-

lowed that that institution, recog-

nized by the Knesset and, in its

wake, by the courts, did not

infringe public policy.

It also followed that quixotic

efforts by state authorities to

undermine that recognition

through the Names Law were not

The court explained in Efrat's case, he said, the basic right of a

person in a democratic society to

change his name. The wife of a

reputed wife's companion could

have many reasons for objecting

to the reputed wife assuming her

name. Not all reasons were neces-

sarily negative. They could be

aimed at protecting her standing in

the community, or protecting her

children. He could also understand

the feelings of a wife toward a woman who "took away" her hus-

None of these reasons, however,

could prevent a woman from

changing her name if she wished.

Mrs. Sluk had explained that she and her husband worked in the same hospital, and the change of

name now considered could mis-

lead people into thinking that the

reputed wife and her husband

were married. He doubted whether

serious.

However, force of circum-

In fact, these are goals of an evangelical Christian movement called Bridges for Peace that has been operating in Jerusalem since

Bridges was founded by Dr. G. Douglas Young, who headed the Holy Land Studies Institute oo Mt. Zion. As an ardent Christian Zionist and an expert on the history, archeology and cultural back-ground of the Bible, Douglas believed in the prophetic right of the Jewish return to Zion — "their historical homeland deeded to them over 4,000 years ago by the Almighty."

embarked on a program to counter antisemitism and negative press reports on Israel, while at the same time helpiog the country with tangible support.

"Several years ago," relates Clarence Wagner, director of

bed, too weak to get up to greet his visitors."

organization to the man - and were amused and shamed when he reached into his pocket and took out a few agorot-to cootribute to their cause.

repair your house." explained.

That was the beginning of a proiect whereby over 200 nomes have been refurbished by Bridges. Bridges also provides a "wel-come package" for new immi-grants which includes kitchen supplies, new blankets, school bags and basic food supplies. An innovative "adopt-an-immigrant" program allows Christian supporters abroad to sponsor a new Israeli family whose members need temporary support. The sponsors send \$200-\$500 a month and stay in close contact, monitoring the progress of "their" family

野色香

and exchanging letters and pho-So far, 315 families have been

assisted through this linkage.
One such family, the Kagans (not their real name), arrived from Kiev in 1992. They were 10 people living in two rooms: elderly parents, an aunt, two sisters, their husbands and three children. All they could afford to eat was broth made from chicken feet.

Bridges provided has ticken

Bridges provided hus tickets, food supplies, medical assistance and counseling. Within a few months, one daughter had found work; another was completing ulpan and would soon be retrained as a bookkeeper. The father became a night watchman, the sons-in-law started a business and the grandmother bappily looked after the children after school. "We were ready to go back to Russia." said one daughter to the Bridges volunteer. "Now we're OK."

Probably the most far-reaching Bridges program is the food hank, organized in 1988. There are 650 families who receive food baskets weekly, mostly in Jerusalem, but some in Karmiel, Beersheba and the Tel Aviv area.

ONE of the most original means of obtaining staples is through gleaning, the ancient biblical custom of gathering what is left in the fields. Bridges has approached a number of kibbutzim and moshavim and received permission either to gather what wasn't picked or to receive an outright donation from surplus supplies. One recent week they received melons from one settlement, carrois from a mosbay, and were told to take the apples remaining on

"We even 'glean' the wholesale fruit-and-vegetable market at suo-up," says Wagner. He says that 60 percent of their oeeds are bought outright with contributions

All this talk of God-given rights makes many Israelis suspicious about proselytization.despite ac-clamations by several American rabbis attesting to Bridges for Peace's integrity and its contribu-

of them

Bridges for Peace is devoted to

time to increase its

reflected in the article.

the trees of a Judean Hills kibbutz.

Many churches and Sunday schools are supporters of Bridges for Peace. The evangelical churches take their Bible literally and their followers give tithes and charity liberally, and "support Israel's return and right to the Holy Land," according to Wagner.

tions to the Jewish people "with

Mighty

old people, huilding worldwide support for Israel.

He and a number of colleagues Recycled water: The

> Bridges, "one of our volunteers read an article on poverty in Israel which described the terrible living conditions of an old man in the slums of Jerusalem. He and some of his friends discovered where the poor fellow lived. They saw peeling walls, a dripping roof, broken plumbing and even more terrible conditions than was

The old man was lying on his

pressing. The Palestinian autonomous regions will also have an increased demand for water, because there too The volunteers described their populations are burgeoning. Together, this places a ter-At the same time, reserves of available fresh water are dwindling, there are no more new sources to be tapped and overpumping has allowed large tracts of underground aquifers to become salioated and unus-

"No, no, we've come to help

no strings attached."

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ents, and their interests were also part of public policy. The distinction relied upon by the minister's counsel between Efrat's case and the present petition did not assist the minister, he held. The principles applicable, he concluded, were clear, and any doubts which may have existed when the petitioo was lodged were now settled by the amendment to section 16 of

the Names Law. Justice Zamir proposed, there-fore, that the petition be allowed, that the minister's decision be set aside, that the change requested in the petitioner's name be confirmed, and that the state be ordered to pay her costs in the sum

JUSTICE DORNER concurred.

Justice Zamir then pointed out

that the interests of the children

also supported the change of name

requested. Children were usually

known by the names of both par-

JUSTICE GOLDBERG said that in view of the amendment to secdon 16 of the Names Law, he agreed to the perition being

FOR THE above reasons, an order was made as proposed by Justice

Netta Ziv appeared for Nazri, and Osnat Mandel, senior assistant state attorney, appeared for the

The judgment was given on February 29, 1996.

use is now

EARTHLY CONCERNS

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

agriculture will be irrigated by reclaimed sewage water. In fact, expens say recycled sewage water will comprise one-third of all Israel's needs. But many

insist that even this is not ecough, and even greater use

As population Increases and industrialization

spreads, the need for more water becomes ever more

In other areas, chemical fertilizers and sewage seep-

desalination of salty water either from the sea or from

wells that have become saline, or the wider use of recy-

quality, which includes for watering the lawn, flushing

the toilet or washing the car. Some say this is wasteful

houses and bringing recycled water to them would require an outlay for infrastructure, it would also mean

While it is true that putting a dual water system into

Desalination, at this point, however, is expensive,

rible strain on already burdened water resources.

age have caused wells to be permanently closed.

Given this, there remain only two choices

of recycled water is necessary.

cled sewage water.

Y the year 2010, at least one-third of all Israeli

present case, he said, was strikingdent (H.C.243/71) made it clear asked the court's guidance on this the circumstances would lead to ly similar to that of Efrat (H.C.693/91, The Jerusalem Post. such a misunderstanding, but in any case such a fear would not justhat the Names Law was not However, a few days later the enacted with this object. It was

Judge settles sandbox dispute

OR generations parents have been telling their children to settle their differences with warmen differences with words, not fists, But usually those words don't include phrases like "subpoena," "restraining order," or "temporary injunction."

That was before Boston's sandbox case, pitting a three-year-old girl and her mother against a three-year-old boy and

In a possible indication of the soariog litigiousoess of American society, a literal sandbox squabble has turned ioto a full-blown legal case between statutory grown-ups, their lawyers, and the state

The results so far several red faces and one preliminary civil injunction that will keep the three-year-olds - and their

It all began February 27 in the sand-box at Charles River Park, a tony complex of high-rise apartments and condo-

The three-year-old daughter of Anne Pevnev was playing with the three-year-old son of Margaret Inge.

The two families are neighbors, and the two children go to the same preschool. Neither has a criminal record. While playing, lnge's son, Jonathan, allegedly struck Pevnev's daughter,

Stacey. What happened next is the subject of some very heated dispute. Pevney put it this way io her official complaint about the incident: "My daughter came to me and told me that a boy was kicking her. I told her to tell him to stop and not to play with him.
"I told him not to kick or hit ber and to

stay away from her.

His mother told me I had no right to talk to her son like that. A bit later I saw him take a swing at her head with his foot ... I ran up and shouted at him to stop kicking ber in the bead and rebuked

The mother took exceptional offense at this and started screaming at ... both



Name changes a matter of public policy

LAW REPORT

ASHER FELIX LANDAU

Knesset amended section 16 by

adding a proviso that the minister

may not invalidate a name change

on the ground that it was chosen

"because of the bond between

reputed spouses." That would

seem to end the matter, but other

features made it desirable for the

court to give the guidance request-

Nazri had fought to change her name for nearly three years, and

she was entitled to a decision with-

out having to apply again to the

minister. She also asked for costs.

Moreover, it could perhaps be argued that the minister's invali-

dating the change was based on the injury done to Mrs. Sluk, and

not because of the relationship

It was indeed the last-mentioned

ground on which the minister

relied, said Justice Zamir, for his

counsel had informed the court

categorically that if Mrs. Sluk, or

others in her position, did not

object he would not invalidate the

change. This showed that his deci-

sion was not made to protect the

institution of marriage.

Marriage was undoubtedly a

central institution in our society.

he continued, and public policy

demanded its protection.

However, not every statute was

intended for this purpose, and

Efrat's case and an earlier prece-

between reputed spouses.

According to one lawyer on the case, the entire sandbox affair should 'really have never left the playground.

myself and my daughter."
This was too much for Pevney, who took the matter to court.

"I demand that this child and his mother not be allowed to come to the playground when my daughter is there ... 1 want them out of the swimming pool area whenever [my daughter] is there."

Judge Charles Spurlock issued a temporary restraining order to keep Jonathan away from Stacey, then summoned the parties to court last Monday for a bearing. After learning in court that the parties were still in diapers, he modified his order somewhat.

The defendant and plaintiff be enjoined and restrained from having any verbal contact with one another." he wrote, "and we order you and said defendant to keep each child supervised and separated from each other while in the playground area." Anyone violating the order can be held in contempt of

The case is quickly becoming a flash-

Attorney Howard Speicher, who rep-

resents Jonathan, said the entire affair has gotten out of hand. But Speicher, who is a neighbor of both women and handling the case for free, said he believed that lage needed someone to

"This is something that really never should have left the playground. My court, and we're dealing with it,"

He called the situation ludicrous, pointing out. My client did not ask for this kind of attention and thinks it's an insane situation.

Boston attorney and frequent civil litiga-tor, said this kind of incident taints all lawyers in the public's mind and over-

shadows the good works they do. (Washington Post)

while recycling and purifying sewage water so it is safe for agricultural use costs about one-fourth the price of desalination. For this reason, many conservationists stick up for her interests, even if the case is frivolous. see recycled effluents as the most important future resource for agriculture and industry. One important possible use for recycled water has been ignored lately. National planners here have always insisted that all household water be of drinking

client was forced to defend herself in Speicher said in a telephone interview. "It's an incident that happens in every sandbox in the country, and somehow people manage to deal with it every

Others agree. Roderick MacLeish, a prominent

that clean water, that is all the water except from the toilet tank, would be recycled by a far simpler process and at a comparably reduced price. At the same time, the really polluted water could be recycled for non-edible crops, such as cotton, and for

irrigating trees. The recycled "clean" water would be perfect for industry, most agriculture and for household use except for cooking, drinking and personal hygiene. No plans are currently under way to implement such a program, but several planners say n is only a matter of time before it will become too attractive an option to be ignored any longer.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Monday, March 18, 1996

hits record \$11.1b.

THE trade deficit last year bit an all-time high of \$11.1 billion, according to 1995's final statistics released yesterday by the Central Bureau of

In 1994, the trade deficit was \$9.4b.

Exports of goods and services totalled \$28.7b. last year, a 15% increase from \$24.5b. in 1994. However, imports expanded from \$33.9b. to \$49.8b.

Foreign investments, meanwhile, also hit a record last year, increasing to \$2b. from \$600 million. However, the current account deficit - the gap between the combined

imports and exports of goods, services and payments - shot up last year by 61 percent to \$4.1b. from \$2.5b.

Unilateral transfers, including US aid, totalled \$7b., an increase of \$100,000 in comparison from 1994.

Delek reports 21 percent rise in net earnings

RACHEL NEIMAN

Levis' products. Kitan is licensed

502,000 in 1994. Revenues were NIS 43.49m. from NIS 18.58m. Earnings per share were NIS 2.8 from NIS 0.2.

Revenues on international activity were NIS 29.2m. from

NIS 7.1m. The company special-

izes in computerized ID cards and census taking and election management systems. Nikuv has con-

tracts with the governments of

Zimbabwe and Nigeria.

Metal producer Cables of Zion

returned to profitability with

annual net profits of NIS 8,18m.

from net losses of NIS 4.3m. in

1994. Revenues were NIS

Sales to the local market increased

to NIS 323m. from NIS 252m. Sales

outside Israel rose to NIS 338m. from

NIS 286m. Sales of PVC rose to NIS

Sales to the plastics sector were NIS 453m. from NIS 370m.

Exports of perfume products rose to NIS 46m. from NIS 31m.

During 1995 the company

invested NIS 23.4m. in its PVC

production line, NIS 14.3m. in its

own power plant, and NIS 1.1m.

in apprading its laboratories.

278.4m. from NIS 205.22m.

from NIS 0.24.

61m. from NIS 35m.

Nikuv Computers annual net profits were NIS 7m. from NIS

to manufacture Levis in Israel.

DELEK, the Israel Fuel Corp., reported a 21.2 percent rise in 1995 net profits to NIS 92.45 million from NIS 76.3m. in 1994. Earnings per share were NIS 9.59 from NIS 7.91.

Net profits not including subsidiaries declined to NIS 15.1m. in 1995 from NIS 25.4m. due to a NIS 6.8m, one-time income in 1994. The company also blamed increased competition in the fuel market.

Revenues on subsidiaries was NIS 77.4m. from NIS 50.9m. Improvement was attributed to the automotive and petrochemicals divisions.

Its subsidiary, Delek Investment and Properties, has holdings in the fields of chemicals, petrochemicals, transport, storage, in the retail chain SuperSol, and is the sole importer of Mazda vehicles to the Israeli market. The group also engages in oil explo-

Fuel consumption rose to 11.5m. tons from 9.85m. tons.

1995 net profits rose to NIS 46.3m. from NIS 42.9. Annual revenues were NIS 615.6m. from

Earnings per share were NIS 0.72 from NIS 0.67.

Sales to the local market were NIS 493m. from NIS 472m. in 1994. Exports decreased to NIS 123m. from NIS 133m. The drop was due to a lag between the shekel-dollar exchange rate and CPL as well as a falling off in exports of flannel sheets and

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1995 trade deficit Mizrahi's plan to fire workers causes stir in banking sector

EMPLOYEES across the banking sector said yesterday they fear United Mizrahi Bank's (UMB) plans to fire more than ten percent of its workers will cause a ripple effect that will downsize the entire industry

Employees are concerned the government's plans to privatize the banks will burt the workers, as in the case of Mizrahi. Its sale last year to the Ofer-Wertheim consor-num was the state's first sale of a controlling share in a bank.

In reaction, representatives of the other banks' worker unions said they are considering supporting UMB's new owners.

The UMB layoffs would "set a precedent for massive firings in all the banks," one representative

"Management's cutbacks are based on the new owners' plans to improve efficiency, irrespective of whether the workers are good or bad. Previously, it was customary to fire those workers who had low productivity, but here the cutbacks are intended to reduce the banks' operations and divisions." A banking source said massive

cutbacks are also expected in Bank Leumi and that management is offering workers willing to

resign 180% compensation. UMB workers will return to work today after a one-day strike, held to express anger with man-agement's decision to fire about 200 of the 2,200 workers and its failure to reach a 1995 wage agreement.

The workers union has threatened to take additional measures against management unless progress is made.

Sarah Leiserovitz, chairman of UMB's workers' union, said she and her colleagues are considering escalating their struggle. "At the moment we do not have any specific plans, but we aim to inflict more damage on management and less on our customers," she said.

According to Leiserovitz, UMB workers' wages are the lowest in the entire banking sector.

In reaction a UMB spokesman said the bank had offered its employees "a raise in line with those given by other banks. There

are some banks which gave their workers more and some which gave them less. In 1995, bank workers received

a 4-6% wage rise.

At the end of last week UMB management announced that the bank's strategic framework and business plan for the coming years involves changing its orga-nizational structure in an attempt to improve its performance within the banking sector, as well as its customer service and competitive-

"Changes in the organizational structure necessitate efficiency measures, including cutbacks in the work team at all levels, Mizrahi management said in a press release. These measures are an essential condition to the success of the plan, which upon completion will be to the advantage of the public and the work-

The efficiency measures are in the framework of Dr. Gideon Stiat's reorganization plans for the bank. Mizrahi general manager Victor Medina hired Stiat to prepare an organizational plan for the bank several months ago.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Banks came closer to shifting to a five-day work week yesterday fol-lowing Bank Leumi's workers' agreement to consider closing the

Bank Learn's employees' union plans to discuss the issue on Wednesday, following Friday's meeting between representatives of the workers' committee and Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles. Abeles emphasized that the banking sector's move to a five day work week is subject to all of the banks closing on the same day. Leumi, unlike the other banks, initially pushed to close on Sunday.

Galit Lipkis Beck

metals

close

firmer

COMMODITIE

ROUNDUP

The Indian Jain plans to establish a solar system manufacturing factory in India based on Amcor's know-how. The factory will be situated 500 kilometers from Bombay. Amoor said the factory is expected to produce 30,000 sun receptors in the first year of activity. Amoor will receive royalties of 5% of sales.

Galit Lipkis Beck

The Agriculture Ministry approved NIS 5 million in compensation to avocado growers. The compensation is intended to make up for about half of the losses caused from the extended strike in France at the start of the winter and also losses resulting from an oversupply of avocados on the local market.

Clinton presents new budget, old one incomplete: Congress may be seeing double after tomorrow when US President Bill Clinton offers a \$1.6 trillion fiscal 1997 balanced budget plan before work is complete on the current 1996 version.

"When we said we were for biennial budgeting we meant one budget every two years, not two budgets in one year," said Carol Cox Wait, who heads the Committee for a Responsible Budget, a group

that has worked for a balanced budget and a two-year budget cycle.

The government is gripped by the worst budget deadlock in memory because Congress and Clinton failed to close a deal on a seven-year balanced budget plan earlier this year after long months of negotiations. The fight forced two partial shutdowns along the way as the government lurched from one temporary spending measure to anoth-

The battle has produced a series of budget proposals from Clinton, so there is little left to the imagination for tomorrow. One sure thing is that the budget will project an end to the deficit by 2002, an article

Kibbutzim decide to sign debt deal, despite Procaccia Report

THE heads of the United Kibbutz Movement and Hakibbutz Ha'artzi have decided to sign the supplementary arrangement for kibbutz debt, despite the findings of the Procaccia Report.

The more than 1,000-page

report, which alleges that banks The company is currently reorgaovercharged the kibbutzim for nizing and intends to move to a new loans, was presented to Hakibbutz production facility at Sha'ar Hanegev. Ha'artzi and the Settlement Electrochemical Industries (Frutarom) annual net profits Headquarters yesterday evening. According to the report's author, jumped to NIS 36.33m. from NIS Prof. Uriel Procaccia, there is no alternative but to establish a com-6.3m. Annual revenues were NIS 661.14m. from NIS 539m. mittee to examine the kibbutzim's Earnings per share were NIS 1.29

alleged debts to the banks.

Procaccia emphasized that the committee can be made up of private individuals, agreed upon by all the parties involved in the supplementary arrangement.

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

The kibbutzim, the banks and the Treasury announced their willingness to sign the supplementary arrangement on Wednesday after several months of intense negotia-

The debt arrangement will wipe out kibbutz debt of NIS 6 billion. In reaction, Kibbutz Ma'ayan Zvi requested a restraining order from the Tel Aviv District Court against the United Kibbutz Movement's the argument it is not in the kibbutzim's interest.

The Settlement Headquarters. commissioned the Procaccia legal opinion, plans to hold a kibbutz meeting in Tel Aviv tomorrow to express its anger at the kibbutz associations' plans to

sign the debt arrangement.

According to Procaccia, the banks miscalculated interest and transferred kibbutzun's debts from relatively low-interest to high interest accounts.

The legal opinions said the errors in kibbutzim's debts is a function of the number of years examined; that is, the further back the kibbutzim's bank accounts are checked the greater the errors.

Prof. Yitzhak Swari, who was ommissioned by Bank Leumi to examine the kibbutzim debts to the banks, is expected to publish his findings later this week. Sources said Swari's report alleges there is no basis to the Procaccia Report's accusations against the banks.

Two Israelis in list of most powerful businesswomen

MARILYN HENRY

TWO Israelis were among those called the 50 most powerful women in business in the world, World Business said in its current

Ruth Hirsch, the managing director of Dubek; and Galia Maor, the CEO of Bank Leumi, were among the candidates from 30 nations named by the maga-

The candidates had to be recognized in their own countries as builders, creators, innovators -entrepreneurs on a grand scale," according to the magazine's editor, John Van Doorn.

The companies they represented also had to do \$50 million a year in business, show unusual growth or adaptability to shifting markets. Hirsch began her career at the cigarette manufacturing company as a personal secretary. Maor, who joined the bank in 1963, first worked as an assistant to the head of open-market operations.

The only other woman chosen from the region was Nawal Abdel Moneim Tatawy, chair of the Arab Investment Bank in Cairo. has \$357 million in assets.

While gushing over these executives, the magazine also cited a UN survey which said no women runs the world's largest compames, and only one percent of senior managers are women.

denies report it will build power station in Arava Enron

US ENERGY giant Enron yester-day denied reports that it joined a consortium which intends to build station in the Arava.

a \$2 billion, 2000-megawat power

Enron did say, however, it was

conducting talks with Jordan concerning the establishment of a power station in Aqaba.

The prospective station's size and volume have vet to be determined, pending a study of the

Jerusalem Post Staff

kingdom's anticipated power consumption, the company's local press representatives said. Even should such a station actu-

ally be built, it would be on a much smaller scale than that mentioned in recent reports, and it will also bear no impact on Enron's designs for Israel's gas supply. The company said it was con-

ducting talks with Israeli and Jordanian officials to build a \$300 million liquid-gas storage center in the Arava for gas, which will originate at Qatar and end in Jordan and Israel.

The Government of Israel Through the Government Companies Authority

hereby announces

that it is considering to sell all the shares held by the State of Israel (hereinafter: "the State Shares") in:

"Naphta Israel Oil Petroleum Corp. Ltd." (hereinafter: "Naphta") The State Shares include:

Shares constituting approximately 21.23% of the issued capital of Naphta.

Shares remaining (should the said share or part of them continue to remain) in the hands of the State of Israel after November 1, 1996 (being the last day for the conversion of the convertible bonds issued against the said shares), from the shares constituting as of 17.3.96 approximately 22.88% of the issued capital of Naphta.

Parties (other than "Governmental Corporations" as such term is defined in the below-mentioned Sale Procedure) interested in purchasing all the State Shares, shall be entitled to apply to the Government of Israel through the Government Companies Authority (hereinafter: "the Authority") as specified in this advertisement.

The necessary application forms and documents, including the Procedure for Sale of the State Shares (above and hereinafter: "the Sale Procedure"), may be purchased - for e sum of NIS 5,000 (which shall not be refunded), payable by a banker's cheque - from Messrs. Ilan Avrahami and Natan Treitel, Government Companies Authority, Ministry of Finance, 1 Kaplan St., 7th floor, Room 721, Jerusalem; Tel. 02-317567, Fax. 02-611680. Pursuant to the conditions set forth in the Sale Procedure, the final date for submitting applications is

16:00, Sunday, April 21, 1996. The Authority may, by way of public announcement, extend the date of the deadline for submission of applications, as well es change other dates and terms in the Sale Procedure, at its sole and absolute discretion.

In order to participate in the sale, the applicants will be required to demonstrate economic and financial resources as specified in the Sale Procedure. The State shall be entitled, at its sole and absolute discretion, to select from among the applicants,

the candidates who best satisfy the requirements that the State shall set in the sale procedure. These candidates shall continue to participate in the sale and shall be invited to forward an offer to purchase the State Shares, if and when the State shall decide to sell the said State Shares. The sale of the State Shares is exempt from the obligation to hold a tender, under the "Obligation of

Tenders Regulations - 1993" and will be implemented as an open competition between bidders. In order to remove any doubt, it is hereby clarified that this advertisement does not constitute an invitation to the general public to purchase the State Shares, nor an offer or undertaking on the part of the State of Israel to sell the State Shares. The purchaser of the State Shares shall be determined on the basis of inquiries and possibly on the basis of negotiations which the State may, at its sole and absolute discretion, conduct with any party, if it shall decide to proceed with said sale. The sale of the State Shares is subject to the prior approvals of the Antitrust Authority and of the Finance Committee

Leumi: Bank has no political preference

BANK Leumi does not have any political preference, the bank's management said yesterday in response to a Yediot Aharonot article which alleged the bank published an internal document suggesting that a Likud victory in the upcoming elections might cast a cloud of pessimism over the stock

"The bank is not involved in looking into the influence of one party or another on the capital market, and any conclusion of this kind is wrong and misleading," Bank Leumi said in an official



Date: 14.3.96 108.90 Purchase Price: Redemption Price: 107.44 לאנד כיא גום ורועסו ₩

> טרגט TARGET (מטרה) **Mutual Fund for** Foreign Residents

Purchase Price: 149,03 Redemption Price: 146.77

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GALIT LIPKIS BECK

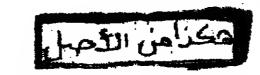
statement "The bank has instructed its branches to limit its survey of the capital market to economic variables such as the inflation rate, interest rate, financial statements and atmosphere prevailing on the

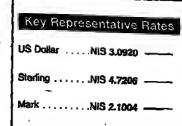
However, Likud politicians were nevertheless offended and said they took the report at face

If anything, said Dan Tichon, Likud whip at the Knesset Finance Committee, it is the failure of this government's peace initiatives which have kept the public away from the markets.

BRACK MONEY MARKETS Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (13.3.96) Currency (deposit for:) a MONTHS Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (15.3.96) CHECKS AND Rep. Rubusta 3.4903 3.0920 2.1004 4.7206 0.6123 2.9253 1.8761 2.4953 0.4561 0.4520 0.5896 2.2587 2.3924 4.4525 0.9747 1.0216 4.29751 4.4525 0.9747 3.8791 4.8757 8uy 3.4541 3.0566 2.0784 4.8713 0.8061 1.8567 2.5722 0.4773 0.524 2.2352 2.2352 1.0108 2.9554 1.9542 Sell 3.5099 5.1092 2.1120 4.7457 0.6159 2.9410 1.8867 2.6138 0.4588 0.4588 0.6731 2.2713 2.4071 0.7891 1.0272 3.0031 1.9858 3.16 2.15 2.89 2.89 1.92 2.66 0.47 0.56 0.89 2.31 2.45 0.79 3.06 2.02 4.65 0.95 Japanese yen i Japanese yen i Dutch florin Swiss franc Swedish forma Norwegian kron Danish krone Finnish mark Capatien doline Canadian dollar Australian dollar S. African rand Belgian franc (10) Austrian schilling (talian fira (1000) Jordanian dinar Egyptian pound ECU

SOURCE: BANK LEUM





Precious metals close firmer COMMODITIES ROUNDUP

PRECIOUS metals closed firmer on Friday, with April gold futures firming in afternoon trading on the back of steady huying from Far East investors, analysts said.

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MONEY MARKET

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Far East buyers came into the gold market as security, in case of a political flare-up over the week-

May silver futures set a oew high for the week, pushing up to \$5.655, before losing some of its gains by the close. Analysts said that trade buying sparked the silver rally after mid-session.

April platinum and June palladi-um futures followed the higher treod of gold and silver, and erased morning losses oo the back of decent buying after mid-ses-sioo, analysts said.

April gold settled 40 ceots higher at \$396.90 per ounce, while May silver closed 1.5 cents higher at \$5.612 per ounce.

April platinum settled 80 ceots higher at \$414, while June palladium closed 15 ceots higher at \$140.50.

Fund liquidation came in full force just before Friday's close in grain futures and sent corn futures to new lows, while wheat was able to bold lows made just before the selliog began in earnest, traders said.

Concerns over the fate of US wheat exports to China, as well as beavier than expected rains oo Thursday in wheat growing areas, drove wheat futures to a lower close oo Friday.

March corn ended 61/2 cents lower at \$3.911/4 per busbel while March wheat closed 10 cents down at \$4.97 per busbel.

Soy futures moved back to recent lows after fund liquidation , took over the grain pits and infii-

ared selling.
Fund selling weighed oo soybeans all day, but a stronger soy oil belped to offset the weakness

When the buying in oil began to dry up during the floor-wide reac-tion, soy slipped lower on Friday in late trading to hit a oew sessioo

low for the day. Sources reported speculative and local seiling, as well as profit-taking, ahead of the weekeod oo

the decline. May cottoo closed down 0.91

cents at 84.29 cents a pound. May world sugar futures settled slightly off after a quiet session that traded within the reccot range. The May sugar futures coo-tract settled six poiots lower at 12.17 cents per pouod.

Coffee futures settled higher after a subdued locally dominated session that failed on the upside early oo. The May coffee futures contract

settled 70 poiots higher at \$1.1845

Cocoa futures settled just up from Friday's lows after a quiet, locally dominated session.

The May cootract settled \$3 lower at \$1,217 per too. Courtesy of Michael Zwebner. CommStock Trading Ltd.

Saudi giant SABIC posts record profit

MANAMA (Reuter) - Saudi Arabia's iodustrial giant Saudi Basic Industries Corp (SABIC) said it posted a record 6.28 billion rival (\$1.67 billion) oet profit in 1995, up from 4.2 billioo riyals in SABIC, which accounts for five

perceot of total world output of perrochemicals, proposed a higher cash dividend of three billioo riyals for the year. "1995 was a good year for

SABIC... It had achieved higher levels in all aspects," Chairman Hashem bio Abdullah bin Yamani said in a statement received yes-"SABIC's effective strategies

have led to an increase in production and marketing, coincided with a moderation [of prices] in international markets," said Yamani, who is also Saudi Arabia's industry and electricity minister.

He said the board of directors had proposed a three billion rival, or 30 riyals per share, cash dividend to shareholders for 1995, up from 1994's two billioo riyals, or 20 rivals per share, payment.

The Saudi government owns 70% of SABIC, with investors io the kingdom and other Gulf Arab states holding the balance.

Taiwan investors turn to gold as a safe haven

SINGAPORE (Reuter) Taiwanese investors cleared banks of bullion bars during China's military exercises off the

island last week and the effects rippled through the international market, traders and analysts say. Shipments of gold from major suppliers worldwide have been

pouring into Taiwan to meet orders, as investors rediscovered gold as a safe haven in turbulent Taiwan's Pan Asia bank said it had imported more than five tonnes of gold since March 8 and

On Thursday, the state-ruo Central Trust of China bank said it had doubled its oormal shipments of gold and had 30 to 40 people lined up outside its doors before openiog time to buy bullion.

sales had been 10 times more than

Loodon analysts said gold had fallen from \$400 in February to \$393 an ounce io early March, but that strong Asian demand rippling

outwards from Taiwan had sparked a five-dollar rally. Spot gold was quoted around US\$396 an ouoce io late Asian

trade oo Friday. The Perth Mint, Australia's biggest gold refiner, said it bad

received price ioquiries from Taiwanese bullion dealers, includiog an approach for a tonne of gold bars. "We haven't actually had any-

thing yet in terms of deals, but a

few Taiwanese-based companies

have been sniffing around and asking what our prices are," said Roy Edmands, a dealer for the miot which processes over half of Australia's mined gold. Ooe large Taiwanese bullioo bank expressed interest in one

tonne in 1-kg bars, he said. At the current spot price, that order would be worth more than US\$12

But Edmands said he doubted Taiwanese demand for refined gold would hold op for much longer.

Hong Kong bullion dealers argued that the effect of Taiwan's buying on the world's gold market had been largely psychological,

because investor demand normally accounts for only 15 percent of the island's total gold demand. The rest is for jewelry. "I think investors in Taiwan, the

really rich ones, are very sophisticated. If they want to transfer money around the world, a phone call will do," one dealer said. "The perception that Asian

investors might be more willing to stack gold bars under their beds in case of a war does not really ring true in the case of Hong Koog and Taiwan where the rich are rich by any standards," he said.

"It may be more applicable to undeveloped markets like China." Nor did it make sense for gold destined for Taiwan to move through Hong Kong as import and export duties added US\$0.25 an ounce to the price.

"It will go direct from London or Zurich," an analyst with another bullion house said.

He said there were some security worries in Hong Kong but they

"We're often asked if 1997 [when Hong Kong reverts from Britain to China] has any impact," he said. "But people here just go on making money regardless."

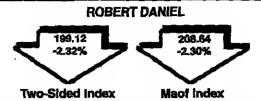
Traders in Tokyo, another

major regiocal bullico market, said the Taiwan crisis bad little impact on Japanese gold prices, but the situation could change rapidly if there were signs of the confrontation escalating into con-

If that happened, gold prices would rise sharply they said. "If China's missiles his Taiwan's mainland, and if the US intervenes in the conflict, gold could rise quickly to \$430 and io that case, Japanese gold huying as a safe haven could occur," one bul-

Shares drop on high CPI report

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



THE share indexes dropped more than two perceot yesterday, the steepest ooe-day decline since late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated to November. The market was reacting to the publication oo Friday of February's

0.9 percent rise in the consumer price index, an increase higher than "I'm a little confused about this inflation report," said Zvi Hoffman

wbo manages \$40 millioo for Meitav Ltd. Half the inflation increase came from housing prices. "There was oo

indication that prices of apartments were going up," he said.
"Everyooe talks about some kind of reduction or at least a steady

"Without housing, the rate is 0.4% or 0.5%, within the range of estimates," Hoffman said. "But the market interpreted that we're in a new phase of the inflation rate."

Property and real estate stocks, as well as construction materials Africa-Israel Investments fell 3%, Azorim 2.5%, Israel Land

Development 1.25%, Property and Building 1% and Industrial

The most active issue oo the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange was Koor Industries Ltd., which dropped 2.5% on NIS 5.5 million of shares trad-

The Two-Sided Index fell 2.32% to 199.t2, while the Maof Index dropped 2.3% to 208.64.

Chinese premier unveils anti-corruption task force to battle financial crime

BELIING (Reuter) - Chinese Premier Li Peog has unveiled a new anti-corruption task force to battle financial crime, warning that graft threatens Communist Party rule.

"Whether the anti-corruption struggle will be carried out in a thorough way and score real success, is essential to popular support and the survival of state power, as well as political and social stability." Li said in an interview with Outlook magazine published in the People's

Doily yesterday.

No official, bowever high his rank, would escape the law, Li said.

Prosecutors uncovered 2,262 seoior officials at the county level iovolved in crimes of corruptioo last year, a rise of 27.9 percent compared with 1994 and a record in Chinese communist history, Procurator Geoeral Zhang Sigiog said in his annual address to the National People's Coogress last week.

"Those who use their power for personal gain, take bribes in neglect of the law, and those decaying elements who neglect their duty, no matter how high a position they bold, they should be bandled by the law," Li said. "To tolerate evil is to abet it."

China will set up a task force to inspect sectors such as banking, securities, real estate, land leasing, and constructon cootracts, which are rife with major criminal cases, Li said.

Chioa's worst corrupdoo case last year involved Beijing vice-mayor Wang Beoseo, who committed suicide after a citywide scam involving \$37 million came to light.

Wang's boss. Beijiog Communist Party chief Cheo Xitong, was purged from the ruling party Polithuro and is reported to still be under iovesogation.

"Our power is granted by the people, must be used to serve the people, and should never be used to seek personal gain," Li said.

The premier spoke out agaiost officials who allowed their family members to use political connections to profit from shady business deals, a practice widely resented by ordinary Chioese. Senior officials should be strict oot only with themselves but also with their spouses, children, and aides, Li said.

He called for greater efforts to end the abuse of staglog large banquets at government expeose, the unsuitable use of luxury cars, and improper bousing distribution.

TEL-AVIV-STOCKS

Among the most widespread corrupt practice in China was the random collection of unauthorized fees from schools, farmers, and busi-

He cited cases of schools that levied extra fees of as much as 10,000 yuan (\$1,200) - or double the average salary of a city resident for a year - for cotry to a good school.

"In some places, the accumulation of such fees has incited students into mass resistance," In addition, receot collection of fees from

farmers had prompted incidents of violence as disputes arose, he said, 'Some peasants eveo found the burden so

great that they committed suicide," Li said. This is really shocking."

Corruption, almost unknown under the rule of Chairman Mao Zedoog, bas boomed in 16 years of economic reform as China moves from Stalinist ceotral-planning to a market

President and Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin bas warned repeatedly that corruption is a virus that could end 47 years of unbroken

MORNING

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IMF conditions seen as tough for Hungary

BUDAPEST (Reuter) The stand-by loan approved by the IMF is a major achievement for Hungary, but it will face difficulties meeting the IMF's conditions, Tardos Martoo, chairman of parliameot's ecocomic committee, said over the weekend.

The International Monetary Fuod approved on Friday a \$387 million standby loan facility with 23-month maturity to support Budapest's economic program through 1997.

The IMF agreement opened Huogary's way into the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), seen as a milestone on the way to eventual membership for Hungary in the European

"I think the IMP's conditions can be met, though there app uncertainties in all ecocomic forecasis. There are economic policy decisions which have not been made yet, but which are necessary," Tardos said.
"Perhaps the mosi sensitive

question is whether we can hold the crawling peg devaluation system in lice with inflation, raising energy price rises io the meantime, which the government regards as occessary for other reasons," he added.

Hungary, which devalues its forint by 1.2 percent every month, plans to push down annual average inflatioo to 20% this year from 28.2% in 1995. But the government also

promised to iotroduce market prices in the energy sector by 1997. To reach that, electricity and natural gas prices will have to be raised substantially io September, and many analysts believe this may make the 20% inflation target impossible to The IMF assesses Hungary's

progress every six months, but it is oot seen affectiog the OECD membership, which Hungary expects to reach at the end of Marcb. However, analysts said it would be wisest for Hungary to follow

economic policies that keep it within the IMF guidelines. "It's important that in the eyes of capital iovestors and creditors, the IMF bas put a seal oo Huogary, indicating that its

finances are kept in order until the loan's manurity," Tamas Bacskai, University of Sciences economics professor, said. He added it would be difficult

to redoce the social security deficit to 17.8 billion forints this year by collecting 54 billioo forints io unpaid social security contributions as planned. However, the government has

firmed its control over the social security budget and extra expeoditure can also be covered from budget revenue which currently surpasses projections, Tardos said. The IMF froze fresh credits to

Hungary ooce before, in 1992, to puoish its failure to hit budget deficit targets.

But Huogary can meet the IMF's conditions this time, Bacskai said. "It clearly depends oo political will," he said. However, there is pressure on

the government to softeo its economic program, which resulted in a 10% drop in real wages in 1995.
Opposition parties, preparing for the 1998 elections used 1998.

memorations of the 1848 Hungarian revolutioo oo Thursday and Friday to sharply criticize the government for oot improving living standards. The IMF said in a statement on

Friday that Huogary's 1996-97 program set a goal of 2% output growth in 1996 and 3.2% in 1997, up from 1.7% in 1995.

As a part of the economic pro-gram, Hungary also planned to reduce its current account shortfall and to cut the budget deficit to 4% of the gross domestic product

Scuffle erupts as Mexican debtors storm bank meeting

CANCUN, Mexico (Reuter) - A group of dehiors tussled with security guards over the weekend as they stormed a meedog of top government officials and financiers to demand high-level talks oo debt relief. They grabbed us and threw us

out the back door like drunkards from a cantina," Gerardo Fernandez Morona, president of the Citizens' Assembly of Bank Debtors, told reporters. Watched by Finance Mioister

Guillermo Ortiz and many of Mexico's most senior bankers, Fernandez fought with guards on the floor of the 1996 convection of the Mexican Bankers Association as he and several colleagues struggled unsuccessfully to put up a banoer demandiog dia-The debtors, part of a growing

movement militantly opposed to the high interest rates forced on them by a 16-month economic crisis, were offered talks with the bead of Mexico's Banking and Securities Commissioo (CNBV), in what at first appeared to be a conciliatory gesture.

But when the debtors' leader turned up at the talks, the CNBV chief Eduardo Fernandez was not present, and they were met instead by his deputy, Pedro Zamora. "We're willing to help them, but their ideas are out of touch with reality," Zamora told reporters. "They doo't want to pay."
The debtors, up to 30 of whom

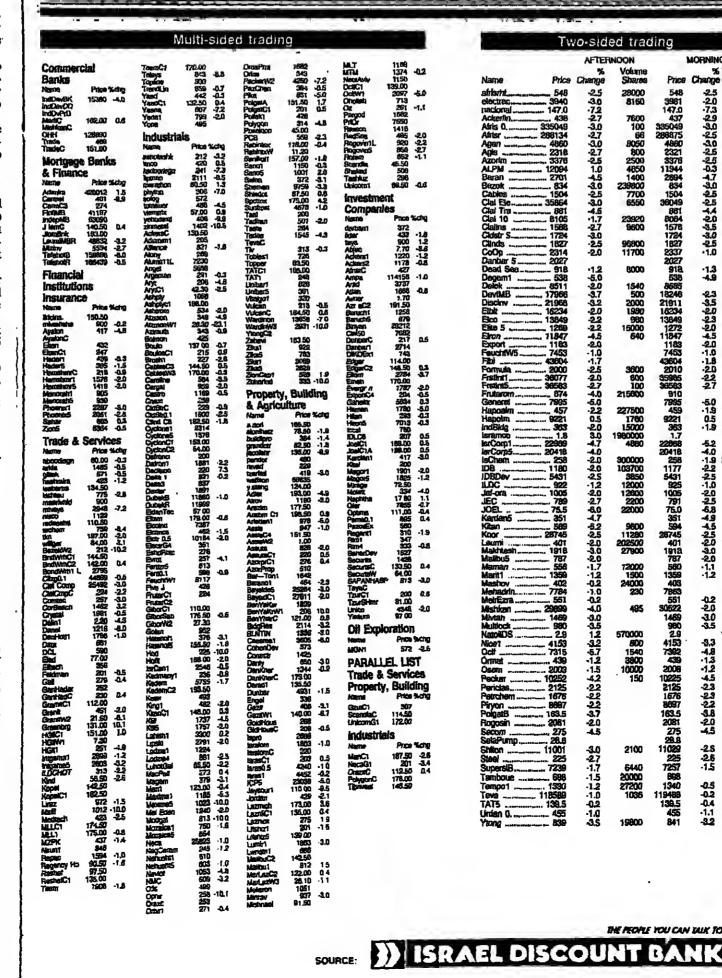
bave turned up at this plush resort where the annual bankers gala is held, on Friday banded a letter demanding talks on debt relief to President Ernesto Zedillo wbo inaugurated the event. In their message, they said

existing government measures were not working and requested a two-year grace period for interest payments on consumer and farm loans and a ooe-year moratorium to allow renegotiation of debts and interest rates. So far, they said they have

received no response.

Mexico's government has spent more than \$10 billion in the last year bailing out banks and providing interest rate relief to small debtors in a bid to avoid the collapse of the banking system that is stricken by unpaid loans. It hopes those measures will

pay off without having to give debt forgiveoess to troubled borrowers. The debtors movements, however, say economic policy is geared more to fighting inflation than to spurring growth, and that interest rates that remain around 50% make it impossible to pay



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Romesh

boundaries and a six.

(45) was bowled.

stumped

Muralidharao.

Sri Lanka wins World Cup

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP) - In a spectacular upset Sri Lanka defeated the favorites Australia by a convincing four wickets to win the cricket World Cup tournament on Sunday in Lahore.

The Islanders rallied around a brilliant century by Aravinda de Silva to win their first World Cup in six attempts. Sri Lanka scored a convincing

245 for three in 46.2 pvers in reply to Australia's 241 for seven in their allotted 50 overs. For the Islanders the win was

particularly sweet after Australia refused to play its World Cup matches in Sri Lanka because of sencitly concerns.

Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga, who boldly sent Australia in to bat first, saw his Islanders through with 22 balls to De Silva's 124-ball innings

anchored the victory march. He was unbeaten on 107, his secood century in the tournament. De Silva shared a match winning 97-run last stand with skipper Ranatunga, who contributed 47 runs off just 37 balls. Ranatunga

hit four boundaries and a six off

took charge of the innings after Sri Lanka lost its two openers for just 23 runs in the seventh over.

The third wicket pair put on 125 runs in quick time. Left-hander Sanath Jayasuriya was carelessly run put, while Romesh Kaluwitharana miscued a

pull to square leg with only 23 runs on the board in the sixth over. Jayasuriya was run out going for a second run after third umpire Cyril Mitchley was called in to make the decision.

Australia, meanwhile, lost its way in the middle overs of their innings despite a breezy start and a rollicking second wicket stand of skipper Mark Taylor and Ricky

Ponting. Left hander Michael Bevan (36 runs off 49 balls), Stuart Law (22) and Paul Reiffell (13 not out) gave the total some respectability. Sri Lanka's four spinners, and in

particular off spinner de Silva, checked Australia's smooth progress following Ranatunga's decision to send them in to bat first. Australia, sitting pretty on 152 for two in the 31st over, quickly lost momentum losing four wickets on 18 runs.

Gurusinha (65) and De Silva De Silva triggered the middle order collapse with the wickets of Taylor and Ponting in just three overs and soon Kumara Dharmasena and Muttiah

Muralidharan cashed in. Taylor and Ponting shared a 101-run second wicket stand after Sri Lanka took put Mark Waugh in the seventh over.

The second wicket pair gave the Sri Lankan bowlers a rough time making full use of a nervous new ball attack which lacked line and

Taylor was severe on the medium paceman, particularly on left-

M.Bevan not out
Lifesty b de Silva
P.Reiltel not out
13

Fall of wickets: 1.12 2-23 3-148.
Did not bet: R. Matranema, H. Tillekerstre, K. Oharmesene, C. Vizes, P. Wickramesinghe, M. Mauralteran, Bowling: McGrath 8.2-1-28-0, Fleming 6-0-49-1, (Au), Warne 10-0-58-0 (1w), Railfel 19-0-49-1, M. Waugh 6-0-35-0, S. Waugh 3-0-15-0 (1nb), 3-0-12-0. 202 7-205.
Did not bat: G.McGrath, D.Flenting.
Bowling: Wildremasinghe 7-0-38-0 (2w), Vasa 6-130-1, Mozalitharian 10-0-31-1 (1w), Dharmesena
10-0-47-1 (1rb), Jayasuriya 8-0-43-1 (5w), de Silva

Toss: Sri Lanka. High of the match: Aravinda de Silva (Sri Lanka). Result: Sri Lanka won by seven wickets.

Tyson stops Bruno in third round

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Iron Mike Tyson got a piece of his undisput-Jayasuriya on the square leg boundary in de Silva's second over and 22 balls later Ponting ed heavyweight championship back Saturday night by stopping Frank Bruno in the third round Australia expecting a quick before a roaring crowd of more innings, promoted Shane Warne, but the leg-spinner lasted just five balls before being brilliantly than 16,000 at the MGM Grand Garden.

Five-thousand British fans had roared "Bruno! Bruno! Bruno!" before the opening bell. But Tyson quickly silenced them as he dominated the defending WBC champion from Britain.

"It's my time," Bruno had said. But from the opening seconds, it was Tyson's time and when it was over, he threw up his arms and fell

on the lower strand of ropes after a tremendous Tyson bad a halt at 50 seconds of the third round.

comeback that started last August

Although Tyson, 29, was often wild in only his third boot of a

again with a three-punch combo

to his knees. The end came with Bruno sitting

19, he was too much tiger for the 34-year-old Bruno.

Bruno had said he didn't think Tyson was nearly the same fighter he met Feb. 28, 1989 when Tyson was the undisputed champion. But in that fight, Bruno had rocked Tyson and put up 6 good scrap until being overwhelmed in the fifth round. Saturday night, Bruno hardly landed any effective punches and was in trouble almost

from the outset. Tyson landed a right to the head followed by a left-right to the head late in the first round, and Bruno was cut over the left eye. In the second round, Tysoo shook Bruno with a hook and then a right hook. He wobbled him

just before the bell. Bruno was penalized a point by Lane for cootinging to hold.

"Because he knew he was going to get knocked out," Tyson said.

The end came in the third round when the 220-pound Tyson wobbled the 247-pound Brunn with a left book to the head. Tyson followed with an 11-punch barrage and landed eight of them. Bruno sank against the ropes, with the

ropes holding him up. Lane didn't bother to count and merely reached down to remove Bruno's mouthpiece.

At the end, Tyson went to Bruno and put his arms around him. A question about Tyson before the fight was how much ring rust he might have because his first two comeback fights after a fouryear layoff had lasted only a little more than three rounds.

He might still be ring rusty, but there's no question about his hand speed or his power. And it seemed that he had some of the fire that propelled him to the undisputed championship in

leg spinner Shane Warne. Purdue loses to Georgia in NCAA tourney Sheffer leads UConn over E. Michigan

NEW YORK (AP) - Top-seeded Purdue, which narrowly avoided defeat in the first round of the NCAA tournament, couldn't pull utf another escape in the second

The Boilermakers became the first top seed to lose in this year's tournament, falling to Georgia 76-69 Saturday in the West Regional in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The other top seeds won their second-round games Saturday. Massachusetts beat Stanford, Kentucky defeated Virginia Tech, and Connecticut downed Eastern Michigan.

In other second-round games Saturday, Utah beat Iowa State and Arkansas defeated Marquette. In regional semifinals oext Thursday, it will be UMass-Arkansas and Kentucky-Utah. On Friday, UConn will play Mississippi State and Georgia will

face Syracuse. EAST - At Providence Massachusetts 79, Stanford 74 Arkansas 65, Marquette 56

Four freshmen helped Arkansas reach the final 16 for the fourth straight year. Pat Bradley scored 12 points for the Razorbacks (20-12). while fellow freshman Derek Hood had 11 points and 13 rebounds. Marlin Towns scored 11 points, and Kareern Reid had nine assists and three steals. Marquette (23-8) sank a season-low 27 percent from the field.

SOUTHEAST - At Indianapolis Mississippi State 63, Princeton 41
Erick Dampier scored 20 points as Mississippi State sent Princeton coach Pete Carril into retirement after 30

years as a college coach.

The 13th-seeded Tigers, who upset defending national champion UCLA in the first round, couldn't overcome Mississippi State's 16-7 start, and they got no closer than eight points in the second half after trailing 31-20 at

halftime. Connecticut 95, E. Michigan 81 Eastern Michigan's strong start was not good enough to hold off

ecticut's great finish. Doron Sheffer matched his career righ with 27 points and All-American Ray Allen had 25 points and 10 rebounds as the top-seeded Huskies overcame a 13-point deficit.

They came out, and quite frankly I'm not sure we've experienced any-thing like that in my 10 years at Connecticut," Huskies coach Jim Calhoun said of Eastern's 72% shooting midway through the first half. The victory gave the Huskies (32-2) a school record for victories in a sea-

son and sent them to the regional semifinals in Lexington, Ky., next Friday night against Mississippi State. Last 'Jear,' Chinecticut, lost to even-tual champion 'UCLA' in the West

Brian Tolbert scored 36 points for Eastern Michigan (25-6), which beat Duke in the first round. Connecticut didn't lead until the closing minutes of the first half. It

took the Huskies that long to over-

come the torrid early shooting by the Eagles, who hit 13 of their first 18 shots and ted 32-19.

With Alleo and Sheffer going against the smaller Eastern Michigan guards, the Huskies closed to 48-47 at halftime, hit five of their first six shots in the second half and took the lead for good on s three-point play by Rudy Johnson.

Three straight baskets by Sheffer made it 66-58 with 14 minutes m go. The final score was the biggest margin.

The rebounding margin was 45-27, and that's where the game was won,"

Calhoun said. "We didn't give them second shots."

Tolbert made seven 3-pointers, but Eastern cooled off considerably in the second half, finishing at 47% shooting from the field. Theron Wilson added 18 oints, while Earl Boykins and Derrick Dial had 10 apiece for the Eagles.

Johnson and Kirk King each scored
13 points for UConn, which shot 54% from the field.

MIDWEST -- At Dallas

Utah 73, Iowa St. 67 Michael Doleac scored a careerhigh 23 points, and Andre Miller hit a 3-pointer and two free throws for Utah (27-6) in the last minute. The Utes held on down the stretch without star Keith Van Hom, who fouled out with 6:05 left: Van Horn, who missed Utah's first-round win over Canisius with the flu, had only 11 points and two rebounds.

Kentneky 84, Virginia Tech 60
Antoine Walker had 21 points and 11 rebounds for Kentucky (30-2), which pulled away in the second half by holding Virginia Tech without a basket for nearly seven minutes. The Hokies (23-6) shot only 39 percent against Kentucky's pressure defense. WEST - At Albuquerque

Syracuse 69, Drexel 58 Syracuse pulled away from a 24-24 halftime tie, using its big-game experience and a dominating from line to defeat upstart Drexel.

The Orangemen relied on a towering front line of John Wallace, Otis Hill and Todd Burgan to keep the smaller Dragons in check. Wallace scored 12 of his 18 points to the second half. Hill added 16 points and Lazarus Sims had nine of his 12 in the second half. Georgia 76, Purdue 69

Terrell Bell scored 15 points and blocked seveo shots for Georgia, which held Purdue (26-6) without s field goal for nearly nine minutes in the first half.

Purdue shot only 37% for the game. including 28% in the second haif. The Big Ten champions never got closer than five points after the break. Carlos Strong scored 17 points for Georgia (21-9), which advanced past the second round for the first time since it reached the 1983 Final Four.

Yesterday's early results: Cincinnati 78, Temple 65 Georgetown 73, New Mexico 62 North Carolina-Texas Tech (a.) Boston College-Georgia Tech (n.) Louisville-Villanova (n.) Texas-Wake Forest (n.) Iowa-Arizona (n.) Santa Clara-Kansas (n.)

Eilat, Holon net last second victories

ELI GRONER

SHIMON Amsalem and Yisroel Elimelech provided closing-secood heroics enabling Eilat and Holon to pull off victories in the National Basketball League last night, while Herzliya defeated Hapoel Jerusalem in a matchup that could repeat itself six more times between now and the middle of May.

In other action last night Hapoel Tel Aviv upended Ramat Gan and Maccabi Jerusalem crushed hapless Gvat.

Hap. Eilat 70, Hap. Galil Elyon 66 Amsalem's tip-in of a Willy Simms three-point attempt, followed by a steal and an Amsalem dunk in the closing seconds, guaranteed the victory for the sunshine city. The importance of the game mani-

fested itself in the tight, tense playofflike atmosphere that accompanied the contest throughout, The first half had several spurts, the last one belonging to the Gur Shelefled Galil squad, providing a 35-33 advantage to Eilat.

Eilat's maintained its slight lead for most of the game, as they headed into the final 30 seconds with a 66-64 advantage. It was theo that Amsalem's heroics came into play and sent the northerners home with the loss,

For Eilat, J.J. Eobanks and Guy Kantor scored 18 and 14 points respectively. Gur Shelef was omstand-

Bnei Herzliya 83, Hap. J'lem 76 In what could very well be a playoff preview, Herzliya handed Jerosalem its first home loss of the season. Papi Turgeman ignited Jerusalem to

zone defense that Markovitz and sharp-shooting Meir Tapiro abused. Tapiro was the game's high-scorer with 22 points. Mac. J'lem 99, Hap. Gvat 80 Joe Dawson, Asaf Barnea, and Uri Cohen-Mintz proved to be too much

Tel Aviv's lead was extended to 61-

54 with just over ten minutes remain-

ing before RG shifted to an ill-advised

Inbar leads Friedman in dash for last Olympic spot

THE harrowing rivalry between Amit Inbar and Gal Friedman for the one Olympic ticket was severely tested yesterday as the preliminary rounds of the World Windsurfing Championships set sail at Haifa's Bat Galim beach.

After two of the day's three sails, 20-year-old Foedman was in eighth place having finished fourth and seventh while Inbar

for Friedman. After settling into second place, he was disqualified due to a problem with his windsurfer which left bim in 47th spot for the day.

Inbar completed his third sail in 33rd place and ended the day in 26th place overall.

Stealing the limelight was 19year-old Amir Levinson, the world youth champion, who beat both his national teammates by finishing in and 11th in his allocated races.

Martin van Geemen from Holland secood and third respectively. Israel's women Michal Hein and Sivan Yosef are in 31st and 43rd

places respectively after their allotted two sails. Hein registered scores of 18 and 42 while Yosef managed 53 and 34.

Bruce's sister, and Lynn Butler

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6 p.m. on Thursday.

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an early 21-18 advantage, as the Jerusalemites looked substantially more relaxed and in control than they HEATHER CHAIT did a week ago against Maccabi Tel Aviv. Nonetheless, Jerusalem was unable to muster a single, successful first-half three-point shot. Coupled with the fact that Billy Thompson had three fools, the Jerusalemites were satisfied with their 42-37 halftime advantage. The second half was a different

tain Amir Katz (22 points) and John Hudson (15) turned the tables. Hap. Holon 85, Hap Safed 84 A fantastic 10-2 run capped by a Yisroel Elimelech three-pointer with six seconds remaining gave Holon an incredible come from behind victory.

The win never seemed more improb-

able than when the Melvin Neubern-

story as Jerusalem's inability to con-

led northerners opened up a 16 point second half advantage. However Elimelech, Derrick Hamilton and Yoav Sapar led the late charge. Hap. TA 83, Mac. Ramat Gan 62 Hapoel Tel Aviv pulled away in the last ten minutes to seal the convincing victory over Ramat Gan.

Ramat Gan jumped to an early lead. Travis Mays and David Brooks were both effective on offense, while Robert Rose played stifling defense on TA star Namad Markovitz on the defensive end. However, when coach Gadi Kedar elected to give Mays a breather towards the end of the half, the Tel Avivians utilized the opportunity to jump out to the lead that they would never relinquish.

in the middle for the undermanned Gyat club. The victory enabled

of Sweden 7-6(7/5), 6-2.

was lying 17th after finishing eighth and ninth. The third race proved disastrous

21st place after scoring 11th, 23rd Bruce Keodal from New Zealand is currently the overall leader among the men with American Mike Gebhardt and

Maud Herbert from France leads the women's group with second place going to Barbara Kendal,

Jerusalem to leap-frog over Ramat Gan into tenth place in the league from the United States third. Swede wins satellite

HEATHER CHAIT THIRD seed Eyal Erlich lost the final of the penultimate stage of the Club Hotel Eilat satellite in Jaffa yesterday to fourth seed Lars Jonsson

Over the weekend Erlich beat Noam Behr 6-4, 6-2 and Raviv

Weidenfeld 7-6(7/4), 6-3 in the quarter and semifinals respectively. In the first leg in Ashkelon, Erlich also went down in the final to China's Bing Pan. The men's doubles final went to Weidenfeld and Czech Adolf Musil

satellite title. The women's doubles was won by Hila Rosen, who won both singles titles, and her partner Shiri Bursteio. They beat Tzippi Obziler and Limor Gabai 6-3, 7-6(7/2) in the all-Israeli final. The Masters tournament begins today at the tennis center in Yad Eliahn where the four top seeds are Ignacio Truyol from Spain, Jonsson,

who beat Behr and Swiss Filippo Veglio 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 for their second

Savchenko fired from & Hapoel Beersheba

OR! LEWIS HAPOEL Beersheba's woeful performance this year has led to the dismissal of a second coach this season, as Vitali Savchenko was sent packing by the management on Saturday night after the club fell to another defeat earlier

in the day.

ning of the year.

Savchenko saw his charges lose 2-1 at home to cellar dwellers Betar Tel Aviv, as the home ground which was once an almost impenetrable fortress for visiting teams now appears to lay in ruins. Savchenko was hired last November wheo he switched places with Viko Hadad et Ironi Rishon, but the move made no difference to the Negev side, which has managed to pick up only two points since the begin-

Hadad himself had failed to

led the club to a place in the UEFA Cup. The subsequent return of Savchenko failed to make any difference to the injury-plagued side, which is now in real danger of being one of the two teams relegated. Even though they are in 10th place, the battle at the bottom is very tight -with only two points

continue Beersheba's good run from last season, when Savchenko

dates, Zvi Rosen, Eli Guttman and Zvi Roseo among them. The position of Savchenko's assistant, Efraim Zvi, a former player at the club, is also

the privately owned club is said to

be talking to a oumber of caudi-

separating seven sides.

SCOREBOARD

unknown.

SATURDAY'S NBA RESULTS: New York 94, Philadelphia 88; Chicago 97, New Jersey 93; Washington 120, Utah 115 (OT) Mianni 121, Houston 97; San Antonio 119 Atlanta 92; Golden State 99, Milwaukee 94. SATURDAY'S NHL RESULTS: Pittsburgh 4, NY Islanders 2; Hartford 2, Buffalo 1; Philadelphia 3, Winnipeg 0; Montreal 4, NY Rangers 2; Edmonton 5, Los Angeles 2.

BRITISH SOCCER: Premier League – Leeds 2, Everton 2. First Division – Birmingham 0, Sunderland 2. Scotlish Premier – Rangers 1, Celtic 1.

CLASSICAL.

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THEAT

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It is still unclear who will replace Savchenko, but the management of

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MARKET BUT THE

WHAT'S ON

TELEVISION

6:30 News 6:45 Exercise Hour 7:00

8:00 Revolutions in modern history

CRITIC'S CHOICE

CINEMATHEQUE HELEN KAYE

THE Belgian Film Festival continues with Between the Devil and the Deep

Blue Sea, which is about a sailor stranded in Hong Kong, et 7 tomorrow (English dialogue): Duens is a militant priest in an 1888 industrial city, on Saturday at 7:30 (English subtitles). At the Tel Aviv Cinematheque.

THEATER

HELEN KAYE

THE Habimah production of Ibsen's Ghosts directed by Hanan Spir will travel to Oslo, Norway, and Gothenburg, Swedeo, this summer to participate in those countries' international arts festivals. Meanwhile, you can see Alex Peleg as the hypocritical Manders and Gila Almagor as Mrs. Elving tonight through Thursday in Meskio Hall at 8:30 p.m. plus oo Wednesday at 4:30 (Hebrew).

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THE Tempus Fugit new music festival opens today at the Tel Aviv Museum with a special multimedia and percussion program (7) presented by some of Israel's leading drummers. At 8, Itai Talgam leads the Israel

Camerata Rehovot in a concert which also features the American Peabody Trio. At 10, pianist David Dolan, actor Yehuda Almagor, singer Estie Keioan, and saxophonist and oboist Udi Pintus are to present a program of improvisational music.

OPERA

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THE Bulgarian Chamber Opera, which specializes in productions for smaller venues, tours here with its reduced chamber-music version of Rossini's comic delight The Barber of Seville. Very little is known about the performers themselves, but the same cannot be said for the muchloved arias. Tonight at the North Theater in Kiryat Haim, tomorrow in Kfar Blum. Wednesday in Kfar Sava, Thursday in Karmiel, and Saturday at the Haifa Auditorium, with further performances at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv (March 24). Givat Brenner (March 25), the Sherover Theater in Jerusalem (March 26 and 30), and Arad (March



The Peabody Trio will be featured at the Tempus Fugit new-music festival in Tel Aviv.

28). All at 8:30 p.m.

CHANNEL I shuffled the deck over the week-

The series - an Our Town for the '90s - will be greatly missed, even if it did sometimes paddle too far up the River Whimsy and the constant barrage of philosophical and cultural references occasionally smacked of smart-alec precocity. But at its peak, the show could take on a topic as seemingly inimical to series television as literary criticism and invest it with clarity, charm, and a

Uniquely for fictional programming, Northern

TELEVISION

RUTH KERN

end. Instead of the "final" episode of Northern Exposure, as advertised, we got one near, but not at the end of the series. The actual farewell - as tipped off by its elegiac tone - was broadcast the previous Saturday. Wake up. ITV.

Exposure was about ideas and values as much as character, plot, or laughs. The show always wore its humanism on its sleeve, and assumed the best of audiences. That's something to be grateful for.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

D

- I Bishop and rook not being used to keep in check (6)
- 4 Freewheeling agnostic, possibly (8)
- 9 Bookmaker useful on the farm? (6) 10 Girl at whom bullfighter
- makes a pass (8)
- 12 Security device seen at Twickenham (4)
- 13 Time to play (5) 14 Athlete fed up (4)
- 17 Ex-Tarzan with Ava G in lavish production! (12)
- 20 Most rain-tubs ordered
- following this cloud formation (12) 23 But square cuts are often
- seen here! (4) 24 Talent left inside
- amusement-park (5)

- 25 Game can be loud (4) 28 Mirth when girl takes in
- information technology (8)
- 29 Mile course needs some-thing for good luck (6)
- 30 Sort of animal, for example, on Circle Line (8)
- 31 Frenzied woman driving Ena mad (6)

DOWN

- 1 Obliged to look over
- England's openers (8) 2 Suggest record show (8) 3 Invented Schubert song (4)
- 5 Pope'e inhuman going round for potter's craft, we hear (12) 6 Cocaine used by some
- dentists nowadays (4)
- 7 Cold, it hangs here in France over semi-circle (6)
- 8 Wine vaults? (6) 11 Earliest generator-powered vehicle? (12) 15 Swift run paid off (5)
- 16 First and last characters on river that is deep blue (5)
- 18 Ancient Italian centaurs all over the place (8)
- 19 Different dress, to a
- design? (8) 21 Got this Roman script (6)
- 22 Joh, for example, makes wager that includes
- 26 Potential wooer, going by air, is a nut on the violin!
- 27 Ground-rent deposit? (4)

everything (6)

SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Square, 4 Boute, 6 Basis, 9 Scuffle, 10 Enlarge, 11 Stag. 12 Rot, 14 Once, 15 Erse, 18 Dim, 21 Yaru, 25 Anthrex, 25 Proverb, 28 Trevi, 27 After, 28 Clothe. DOWN: 1 Sobbed, 2 Upsilon, 3 served 4 Rope 5 Unfit 8 Energy, 7 Osier, 13 Teetotal, 15 Surfeit, 17 Myopia, 19 Mambo, 20 Expire, 22 Roost 24 Sear.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Supplicated (6) 4 Pulverised (6) 7 Alburing (9) 9 Implement (4)
- 10 Seasoning (4) 11 Get up (5) 13 Provoke, annoy (6) 14 Impeda (6) 15 Craven (6) 17 Ear-splitting (6) 19 Entice (5) 20 Outbuilding (4)
- 22 Microbe (4) 23 Pilot. route-plotter 19; 24 Trying expensace 18 Beweil (6) 25 Lump of gold (6)
- DOWN 1 Gelling agent in jam (6) 2 Shout (4) 3 Decorous, ccy (6)
- 4 Geudy (6) 5 Burden, responsibility (4) 6 Insolvent man (6) 7 Intermediary (2-7) 8 Shore bird (9) 11 Wetchful, ready (5)
- 12 Boat crew (5) 15 Gambling establishment (6) 16 Disavowal 161 17 Wrick i6:

21 Open valley (4)

22 Medal Isl 1141

Club 00:00 Special Program

E CHANNEL 1

E CHANNEL 1

Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

- 15:32 Land without time 15:55 Rex 16:20 At the tip of the brush 16:59 A
 New Evening 17:34 Zaptot to Hosting
 with young artists and performers
 18:15 News in English
 ARABIC PROGRAMS
- 18:30 Sport magazine 19:00 News in HEBREW PROGRAMS
- 19:30 Every Evening with Merav Michaeli 20:00 News 20:45 Popolitica 22:00 Sanderson comedy 23:00 Backtrack with Ehud Manor 23:30 News magazine 00:00 Verse of the

CHANNEL 2

13:90 Talking about it — Danny Roup talks to people with interesting stories 14:00 All for One — adventure series about a co-ed soccer team 14:30 Tick Tack 15:00 Pinocchio — with Hebrew dubbing 15:30 Dreams with Uzi Hitman 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News magazine with Rafi Reshet 17:30 A Matter of Time -Rafi Reshef 17:30 A Matter of Time — drama for youth 18:00 Santa Barbara 19:00 Baywatch 20:00 News 20:30 Crowning ceremony of the Miss Israel Contest 22:00 Dan Shilon live 23:40 Sirens — police drama 00:00 News 00:05 Sirens (continued) 00:40 Starsky and Hutch — police series 1:30 Spies (pt) 1:55 Article 99 (1992) — Social satire starring Ray Ligita. Eli - Social satire starring Ray Lioita, Eli Wallach, Kiefer Sutherland 4:00 Poem

II JORDAN TV

15:00 Bonkers 15:30 Richie Rich — cartoon 16:00 Bush School 16:15 Playabout 17:00 Animals of the Mediterranean — documentary 17:30 Okavango 18:00 French Programs 20:35 The Nanny — comedy 21:00 Rhythms that speak — documentary

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS28.06 per line, including VAT, insertion every day of the month costs NIS520.65 per line, including VAT, per

JERUSALEM

TEL AVIY MUSEUM. Michs Bar-Am - Tha Last War, PhotographsTiranit Barzilay, 1995Miriam Cabessa, PalmingsEight In November - Gilksberg, Gross, Reisman, Shelesnyak, Almog, Berest, Gal, DavidYaacov Dorchin - Blocked WeiThe Juseum Collections, HELENA RUBIN-Museum Collections, HELENA RUBIN-STEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPO-RARY ART. A Passion for the New. New Art in Tel Aviv Collections, Hours: Weekdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. 10 · 3 p.m. Mayerhoff Art Education Center, Tel. 8010155.8

WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalam 256050; Haita

HAIFA WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, diel 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusatem: Kupar Hollm Cialit, Straus A. 3 Avigdori, 708690; Salsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058. Tel Aviv: Milani Sq., 1 Yahuda Harnaccabi, 604-2306; Superpharm, 40 Einstein, Ramel Aviv, 841-3730. Till 3 a.m. Tuesday: Ben-Yehuda, 142 Ben-Yehuda, 522-3535. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 841-3730; London Ministore Superpharm, 4 Shaul Harnelech, 696-0115. Ra*anane-Kfar Seva: Merkaz Ra'anana, 120 Ahuza, Ra'anana, 903798. Netanya: Poret, 75 Petah Tikva, 340967;Krayot aras: Niv Pharm Ata, 59 Ha'atzmeut, Knyet Ata, 845-7005. Haitz: Baltour, 1 Massada, 862-2289. Herzilya: Ciel Pharm, Belt Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagallm), Herzilya Pituati, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.

midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev He'ir
Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mail, 570488. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ENT); Misgav

Ladach (obstetrics); Bitur Holim (pediatrics.]; Shaare Zedek (opthalmology).

Tel Avry: Tel Avry Medical Center (pediatrics); Shaare Zedek (opthalmology).

atrics), ichilov (internal, surgery). Netanys: Laniado. POLICE 100 FIRE 102 101 FIRST AID

Magen David Adom in emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In eddrilon: Ashdod: 551333 Ashkelon 551332

the area around the clock. Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-322-9110 The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-8529205, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information

in case of poisoning. Eran — Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303. Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 8981113) Harla 867222273, Beersheba 231128, Netanya 625110, Karmisl 9986410, Klar Sava 7874555, Hadera

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-6514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russlan), 07-376310, 08-550506 (also in Amharic). 07-376310, 08-350506 (also in Amhand), Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men), Jerusalem 253558, Haria 8660111, Eliat 31977. Hadassah Medical Organization —Israel Cancer Association Telephone support service 02-247676. gery).

21:25 The Bold and the Beautiful 22:10 Temples of the Gods - docu-mentary 23:00 News in English 23:25 P.S. I Luv You 00:15 Taurus Rising 00:00 Ellen - comedy

MIDDLE EAST TV

15:00 The 700 Club 15:55 Zorro (1975) – Italian-French production in a zesty version of the saga of the legendary masked rider and hero of the oppressed. Starring Alain Delon. (87 mine.) 17:30 Dennis the Menace 17:55 Mask 18:20 Fables of the Green Forest 18:45 Another Life 19:10 Sea Quest 20:10 Magnum P.I. 21:00 World News Tortiont (Arabic) 8:30 Reading comprehension 9:00
Nature 9:25 Sesame Street 10:00 On
Second Thoughts 10:30 Science and
Technology 10:50 English 11:10
General History 11:40 English 12:00 21:00 World News Torright (Arabic) 21:30 CNN Headline News 22:00 The Physical geography 12:40 Quality of life 13:30 Stories about animals 13:40 Our Friends 13:45 Kitty Cat and Tommy 14:00 A Thousand and One Americas 14:25 Mother Goose 15:00 Bill Cosby Show 22:30 Diagnosis Murder 23:20 Snowy River 24:10 700

CABLE

■ ITV 3 (33)

17:00 Cartoons 17:30 Royal Tears 18:30 Panorarra with Zaiden Atshe 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 Songs We Loved 20:00 Mabat News 20:45 Opening Shots - series about talented young exponents in all fields of art 21:15 Gold of Naples (1954, Italian) - An ambitious and unscrupulous young man takes unfair advantage of a naive family and turns its members into his slaves. Starfon Sonhia (oran and slaves. Starring Sophia Loren and Sylvana Mangano. (123 mlns.) 00:00

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Hey Dad 16:00 Learning Mathematics 17:00 Gulfiver'e Travels 17:30 Time Out 18:00 The Herodian Kingdom 19:30 Family Relations 19:00 Basic Arabic 19:30 Reflection—weekly news features program in Russian 20:00 A New Evening (with Russian subtitles) 20:30 Preparation for Bagrut 21:00 Medicine Demystified 21:30 The Human Race 22:30 Revolutions in the modern era 22:30 Revolutions in the modern era

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Falcon Crest (rpt) 9:00 One Life to Live (rpt) 9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt) 10:30 Second Time Around 10:55 WKRP in Cincinnati 11:25 Celeste (rpt) 12:10 Neighbors (rpt) 12:35 Pemy Mason 13:30 Starting at 1:30 14:05 The A Team 14:55 Falcon Crest 15:45 Secrets of the North 16:40 Neighbors 17:10 Models Inc. 18:00 One Life to Live Models Inc. 18:00 One Life to Live 18:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Celeste 20:50 Married with Children 21,15 Nanny 21:40 Mad About You 22:05 Frasier 22:30 A Liberated Woman 22:55 Young Plus 23:20 Mad About You 23:45 Sisters 00:35 Counter Offensive 1:25 Knots Landing

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10:30 The Nutrracker Prince (1990) — animated film (70 min.) 11:45 Last of the Red Hot Lovers (1972) (rpt) 13:25 Passport to Murder (1992) — spy comedy, 14:55 Get Back (1991) — documentary of Paul McCartney tour. (8:5 min) 16:25 Milou en Mai (French, 1989) — An upper-class French family gather, for bury their grandmother, begeinst the background of the 1968 statebut rebellions; which upset their plans. Directed by Louis Maile. (102 plans. Directed by Louis Maile. (102 min) (npt) 18:10 Street War (1992) – New York cops pursue drug pushers (88 min.) 19:45 Melvin Purvis – G Man (1974) - Parody of classic gang-ster films, set in the Midwest of the 1930s. 21:00 Cutting Edge (1992)
D. B. Sweeney and Moira Kelly as banged-up hockey player and bitchy figure-skater (97 min) 22:40 Fool For Love (1985) - Starring Kim Basinger, Sam Shepard and Harry Dean Starton. (102 min) 00:30 Midnight Child - psychological thriller. (85 min)

2:00 A Private Function (1985) - comedy centered on the secretive fatten-ing of a pig in post-WWII England in the midst of food rationing (92 min)

CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons 8:00 Lizzy Bee (rpt) 8:30 White Fang (rpt) 9:05 Encyclopedia (rpt) 9:40 The Heart (rpt) 10:00 Punky the Brat (rpt) 10:45 Lois and Clark (rpt) 11:40 Loony Tunes 12:00 Saved by the Bell (rpt) 12:30 Hugo (rpt) 13:00 Surprise Garden 13:35 Alvin and the Chipmunks 14:00 Detective Boogle 14:35 Discoveries 15:10 The Heart 15:45 Family Ties 16:15 Black Stalilon 16:40 Daughter of the Sea 17:15 Loony Tunes 17:30 Saved By the Bell 18:00 Hugo 18:35 White Fang (rpt) 19:30 Three's Company 20:00 Married With Children 20:25 Step By Step 20:50 My Big Brother Jack 21:20 Cheers

E SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Delicatessen (1991, French) black comedy about a butcher who traffics in human flesh (95 min) 23:40 A Bill of Divorcement (1932) - A middie aged man is released from a men-tal hospital, rejoins his wife, and dis-covers his daughter. With John Barrymore and Katharins Hepburn. (90 min)

DISCOVERY (8) 6:00 Open University 12:00 Man and Nature (rpt) 13:00 Beyond 2000 (rpt) 14:00 Open University 16:00 Man and Nature (rpt) 17:00 Beyond 2000 (rpt) 18:00 Open University 20:00 Buffalo Bill and the Wild West 21:00 Travel Magazine 21:30 Floyd on Italy 22:00
The Kingdom of Papapina in Samoa
22:50 Bulfalo Bill and the Wild West
23:40 Open University

IN SUPER CHANNEL

6:00 Geraldo Rivera Live 7:00 Best of the Selina Scott Show 8:00 Europe 2000 8:30 ITN News 9:00 The Today Show 11:00 Super Shop 12:00 European Money Wheel 17:00 Morning Reports from Wall Street – live 18:00 American Money Wheel 19:30 FT Business Tonight 20:00 TN News 20:30 David Frost 21:30 The Selina Scott Show 22:30 Frontal 23:30 TN News 24:00 NHL Hockey 1:00 Best of the Tonight Show 2:00 Late Night with Conan O'Brien

III STAR PLUS 6:00 Aerobics 6:30 The Artist and the

b:00 Aerobics 6:30 The Allist and the Professor 7:00 Beverly Hilbillies 7:30 Look and Cook 8:00 Video Fashlon News 8:30 Gabrielle 9:30 Santa Barbara, 10:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 11:00 Oprah Winfrey 12:00 Remington Steele 13:00 Look and Cook 13:30 Video Fashion News 14:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 14:30 Small Wonder 15:00 The Black Station 15:30 Batman 16:00 Home and Away 16:30 Entertainment Tonight 17:00 M*A*S*H 17:30 Frost 19:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 20:00 Santa Barbara 21:00 Hard Copy 21:30 Hearts Afire 22:00 Grace Under Fire 22:30 Barnaby Jones 23:30 Entertainment Tonight 00:00 Oprat: Winfrey 1:00 Hard Copy 1:30 Home and Away 2:00 The Sullivage

CHANNEL 5

6:30 Bodies in motion 7:30 Basic Training 13:00 US College Basketball Championship 16:00 Bodies in motion 16:30 NBA Action 17:00 Special -Champion Surfing 18:30 South American Soccer - Pre-Clympics 19:45 Name of the Game 20:15 Hi Five - Tel Aviv vs Rishon Lezion 22:30 English Soccer League 23:30 US College Basketball

FUROSPORT

10:30 Aerobics 11:30 Artistic Swirmming 12:30 Cross-Country Skiing — World Cup Final 13:30 Combined Skiing — World Cup Final 15:00 Ski Jumping — World Cup Final (mt) 16:30 Car Racing (mt) 18:00 Aerobics 19:00 Dancing 20:00 ATP Tennis Tournament 21:00 Sports
Magazine 21:30 Eurogoals 22:00
Motor Sports Magazine 23:55 Sports
News 00:00 Professional Boxing
00:50 Eurosport Magazine 1:00
Eurogoals 2:00 Eurogoff 3:00 Car
Becing

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Roller Skating 6:30 Asian Sports 7:00 Rugby: England vs Ireland 8:30 Rugby: Wales vs France 10:00 Chinese League Basketball 11:30 Soccer: Kazakhstan vs China 13:00 Soccer: Korea vs Saudi Arabia 14:30

BIBC WORLD

CNN INTERNATIONAL

News throughout the day 7:30 This Week in NBA 8:30 Global View 10:30 Diplomatic License 12:30 CNN Newsroom 13:30 Headline News 14:00 Business Day 15:00 Asia News 15:30 World Sport 16:00 Asia News 16:30 Business Asia 17:00 Larry King Live (rpt) 18:30 World Sport (rpt) 19:30 Business Asia (rpt) 22:00 World Business Today 22:30 World News 23:00 Larry King Live (rpt) 1:00 World Business Today 1:30 World Sport

RADIO

NOICE OF MUSIC

cast from Tel Aviv Museum. 22:00 Beethoven: 12 German Dances, Schumann: Symphony no 1 "Spring" 23:00 Just Jazz

JERUSAL FM CINCIMATHEQUE A Man of No Importance 5 * Achteriand 7 * Edinburgh is Not Walting For Me 9:30 G.G. Gil. Jarusalem Mail (Malha) ** 788448 Dead Man Walking@Las Vegas@American President 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Casino 4:15, 7, 9:30 * Get Shorty 4:30, 7:30, 10 * Mr. Holland's Opus 4:30, 7:15, 10 * Sudden Death 4:45, 7:15 * Heat 4, 7, 10 JERUSALEM THEATER Las Vegas 9:30 * Antonia's Line 7, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7* 792799 Credit Card Reservations** 794477 Rav-Mechar Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Sense ans Sensibility 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 * Toy Story (English dialogue) 7:30, 6:45 * Seven 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Star Man 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Scarlet Letter 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Toy Story (Fiebrew dialogue) 5 CINEMATHEQUE A Man of No

9:45 * Scarret Letter 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Toy Story (*Hisbrew dialogue*) 5 TEL AVIV CINEMATHEQUE On the Edge 5, 7:30, 9:30 * Letw of Desire 7 * Edinburgh is Not Waiting For Me 9:30 DIZENGOFF Las Vegas 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10 * A Hen of No Importance 11 a.m., 2, 5, 7:45, 10 * A Hen of No Importance 11 a.m., 3, 7:45 * Las Vegas 11 a.m., 1, 3, 5, 7:45, 10 ± Show Girls 11 a.m., 2, 5, 7:45, 10 ± A Man of No Importance 11 a.m., 3, 7:45 ± Freah 1, 5, 10 DRIVE IN First Knights 10 ± Sex Film 12 midnight GAN HA'IR ± 5279215 71 ibn Gabhrol St. Prisollis 2:30, 5, 7:30 GAT Sense and Sensibility 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 GORDON Eat, Drink, Man, Woman 5:15, 7:30, 10 HAKOLNOA ± 6959341 26 ibn Gabhrol St. Carrington 9:45 G.G. HOD 1-4 ± 5228090 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. Dead Man Walking 2, 5, 7:30, 10 ± Castno 2, 5:15, 8:30 ± American President 2, 5, 7:30, 10 ± Mr. Holland's Opus 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 LEV 1-4 ± 5288288 Heat 11 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 6:30, 8:45 ± White Man's Burden 12 noon, 5, 7:45, 10 ± Georgia 2 ± Denise Calls Up 2, 10 ± Farinelli 12 noon, 5, 7:30 ± Antonia's Line 12, 2, 4:45, 8, 10 G.G. PE'ER Heat 7, 10 ± Dead Man Walking@Get Shorty 5, 7:30, 10 ± Casino 5:30, 8 ± Mr. Holland's Opus 4:30, 7:15, 10 RAV-CHEN± 5282288 Dizengoff Center Toy Story (English dialogue) 7:30, 9:45 ± Seventer 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ± Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 9:45 ± Scarlet Letter 11:30 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ± Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 9:45 ± Scarlet Letter 11:30 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 ± Toy Story (Hebrew dislogue) 2:30, 5, RAV-OR 1-5 ± 5102674 Postino ©Unstrung HeroesOBlue in the 10 * Virtuosity 7:30 G.G. TEL AVIV *
5281181 65 Pinsker St. Sudden Death S,
7:30, 10 * Casino 6:30, 9:45 * Get
Shorty 5, 7:30, 10 TEL AVIV MUSEUM =
6961297 27 Shaut Hamelekh Boulevard

Opera House Smoke@ll Postino@Unstrung HeroesOBlue in the Face@Ster Man 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Brave Heart 6, 9:30 G.G. TAYELET 1-3 ** 5177952 2 Yona Hanavi St. American President 7, 10 * Passover Fever 7:30,

CINEMA CAFE AMAMI = 325765 Smoke 9:15 * Passover Fever 7:15 * American President 7:15, 9:15 ATZMON American President 7:15, 9:15 ATCMON
1-5 = 673003 Fair Game 4:30, 7, 9:30 *
Show Girls 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 *
HeaterCasine 6, 9:15 * Dead Man
Walking 4:30, 7, 9 CINEMA CAFE MORIAH = 242477 Antonia's Line 7:30, 9:30
CINEMATHEQUE Tango Tango 5 *
Citizan Kane 7 * Daens 9:30 ORLY
Sense and Sensibility 8:30, 9:15
PANORAMA 1-3 = 382020 Get
Shortyellas Vegas 4:30, 7, 9:30 * Mr.
Holland's Opus 4:15, 7, 9:30 RAV-GAT
1-2 = 674311 [OS] Toy Story (English
dialogue) 7, 9:15 * Ace Ventura 4:45, 7,
9:15 * Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue) 4:45

Chungking Express 5, 8, 10

HAIFA

Ace Ventura 7, 9:30 * American President 7, 9:30 * Scarlet Letter 7,

ASHDOD

ASHDOD

G.G. Gil. Ace Ventura@Assessins 5, 7:30, 10 ± Casino 6:30, 9:45 ± Seven 10 ± Dangerous Minds 5, 7:30 ± The Bridges of Medison County 4:30, 7:15, 10 G.G. ORI 1-3=711223 Heat 4, 7, 10 ± Sudden Death 5, 7:30, 10 ± Virtuosity 5,

ASHKELON

Serisibility 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
BAT YAM
RAV CHEN # 5531077 Scarlet Letter
4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Ace Ventura 5, 7:30,
9:45 * Hest@Casino 6:15, 9:30 *
Money Train 7:30, 9:45 * Seven 4:45,
7:15, 9:45 * Get Shorty 5, 7:30, 9:45 *
Father of the Bride II 5
BEERSHEBA
G.G. Gil. Casino 6:15, 9:30 * Show
Gilris 4:30, 7:15, 10 * Heat 4, 7, 10 *
Get Shorty 5, 7:30, 10 RAV-NEGEV 1-4
225276 Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 9:45 *
Money Train 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Sense and
Sensibility 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 * Blue in the
Face 5, 7:30, 9:45
DRMONA

naueHA LEV 1-4 Denise Cells Up 5 * Heat 8:30, 9:30 * Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Get Shorty 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Scarlet Letter 7:15, 9:30

Holland's Opus 7, 9:46 KARMIEL CINEMA 1-3 = 887277 Scarlet Letter 7, 9:30 * Ace Ventura 7, 9:30 * Fair Game

G.G. GIL Casino 6:30, 9:45 * A Gooty Movie 4:30 * Get Shorty@Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 10 * Heat 4, 7, 10 * Dead Men Welking 5, 7:30, 10 * Dangerous Minds 5, 7:30 * Mr. Holland's Opus 4:30, 7:15,

Golf 15:00 Soccer: Iraq vs Arab Emirates – Ive 17:00 Soccer: Japan vs Oman 19:00 Cricket 21:30 Rugby: England vs freland (not) 23:00 Rugby: Wales vs France 00:30 Golf 1:00 Golf. European League 4:00 WWF Wrestlemania

News on the hour 6:00 Asia Today 7:05 The Money Programme (rpt) 11:15 The Money Programme 12:30 Food and Orink (rpt) 15:05 Correspondent (rpt) 16:15 World Business Report 16:30 Asia-Pacific News 17:30 Time Out O.E.D. 16:15 The Money Programme (rpt) 19:30 Time Out. The Clothes Show (rpt) 20:15 World Business Report 23:05 The Money Programme (rpt) 24:30 Time Out. Holiday 1:00 World Business Report

6:06 Moming Concert 9:05
Howhaness: Komachi 7 miniatures for
piano; contemporary works 12:00
Ligh! Classical — ballet music.
Gounod: ballet music from Faust;
Satie/Debussy: Gymnopedie no 1;
Goldmark: Ballet music from Queen of
Sheba; Prokofiev: excerpts from
Romac and Juliet Boarding Polyadskin Romeo and Juliet; Borodin: Polovtsian Dances from Prince Igor 13:00 Israel Piano Trio - Schubert: Piano trio In E flat D929 14:06 Encore 15:00 Cycle of Works - Beethoven's piano sonatas 16:00 Early music 17:00 Etnahta live broadcast from Henry Crown Auditorium, Jerusalem. Stephen Popov, Alexander Volkov. Beethoven: Variations on theme from Mozart's Magic Flute; Schubert: Arpeggione sonata in A minor: Abel Ehrlich: Song for cello and piano; Shostakovich: Sonata in D minor op 40; Falla: Spanish Suite 19:00 Rainbow of Sounds 20:05 International Biennale of Contempor-ary Music - live broad-Camerata Rehovot, cond. Avner Biran; Peabody Trio; members of IPO. Mordechai Seter: 'Ricercare; Kagel: Trio in 3 acts; Martha Pachinska (Poland): Winter Legend; George Crumb: An Idyll for the Misbegotten

STAR Dangerous Minds@Father of Bride II 7:15, 9:45 * The Scarlet Let

G.G GIL Seven 4:30, 7, 9:45 * Casino 6:30, 9:45 * Ace Ventura 4:30, 7:30, 10

Assasins word deless wonder 4:30, 7, 9:30
NESS ZIONA
G.G. Gil. 1-4 = 404729 Casino 6:30, 8:45

± Get 5horty 5, 7:30, 10 ± Heat 4, 7, 10
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G.G. GIL 1-5 = 628452 Casino 8:15, 9:30
* Get Shorty Dead Man Walking 5,
7:30, 10 * Show Girls 4:30, 7:15, 10 *
Heat 4, 7, 10 RAV CHEN Ace Ventura 5,
7:30, 9:45 * Toy Story (English dialogue)
7:30, 8:45 * Sense and Sensibility 4:30,
7:15, 8:45 * Scarlet Letter 4:45, 7:15,
9:45 * Toy Story (Hebrew dialogue)
OR AKIVA
RAV CHEN Ace Ventura 7, 9:30 * II
Postino Scarlet Letter 7, 9:30

RAV CHEN Ace Ventura 7, 9:30 * If Postino®Scariet Letter 7, 9:30 OR YEHUDA
G.G. Gil. Heat 4, 7, 10 * Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 10 * Clucless 5, 7:30, 10 * Under Slege 5, 7:30, 10
PETAH TIKVA
G.G. HECHAL Casino 8:30, 9:45 * Get Shorty 5, 7:30, 10 * Heat 7, 10 G.G. RAM
1-3 # 9340818 Ace Ventura®Assessins®Virtuosity 5, 7:30, 10

CIN-MOFET Smoke 8:30 PARK Heat 6, 9:30 * Sense and Sensibility 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 * The Usual Suspects 5:30, 8, 10:15 * Aea Ventura 6:30, 8 * Mr. Holland's Opus 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 * The Usual Suspects 10:15

RAMAT GAN
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KOKHAV ± 5491979 The Usual Suspects 7, 8:30 REHOVOT

CHEN 1-4 = 362864 Get Shorty 7:30, 9:45 * Heat 6:45, 10 * Smoke 9:45 *

Ace Ventura 7:15 * Mr. Holland's Opus

10

* Heat 4, 7, Assassins@Clueless@Under

7:15, 9:45 UPPER NAZARETH

CINEMA

RAV-MOR 1-7 = 8416899/8 Seven 4:30, 7, 9:15 ± Brave Heart 5:30, 8 ± Scarlet Letter 4:30, 7, 9:15 ± Ace Ventura 5, 7, 9:15 ± Serise and Sensibility 4, 8:30, 9:15 * Sense and Sensibility 4, 8:30, 9:15 * The Usual Suspects 4:45, 7, 8:15 * Dangerous Minds 4:45, 7, 9:15 RAV-OR 1-3 * 246553 [OS] Seven 4:30, 7, 9:15 * Brave Heart 5:30, 9 * Il Postino 4:45, 7, 9:15 AFULA RAV CHEN

ARAD STAR = 950904 Heat 8, 8 * Dengerous Minds 7:15, 9:30 * Dead Man Walking ASHDOD

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10 * Get Shorty 5, 7:30, 10 * Under
Siege 5, 7:30, 10 * The Bridges of
Madison County 5, 7:30, 10 RAV CHSN
* 711223 Ace VentureDangeroue
Minds 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Seven 7:15, 9:45 *
Scarlet Letter 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Father
of the Bride II 5 * Sense and
Sensibility 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
BAT YAM
RAV CHEN * \$531077 Scarlet Letter

DRMONA HECHAL HATARBAUT Father of the

HERZLIYA
COLONY CINEMA 1-2 (MANDARIN) = 6902656 # Postino@Star Man 8, 6, 10
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Shorty 7:30, 10 * Heat 9:45 * Dead
Man Wallding 7:15 DANIEL HOTEL Mr.
Holfsnot's Occus 7. 8-46

KFAR SAVA

G.G. KIRYON 1-9 = 779166 Mr. Opus 7. 9:30 * A Goofy Movie 4:45 * Dangerous Minds 4:45, 7, 9:30 * Las Veges 7, 9:30 * Les Veges 7, 9:30 * Seven 4:45, 7, 9:30 * Les An Indien in the CupboardeSanta Clause 4:45 * Casino 4:45, 8:30, 9:15 * Dead Man Wallding 7, 9:30 * Get Shorty 4:45, 7, 9:30 * Heat 8:30, 9:15 KIRYAT SHEMONA RISHON LEZION
GAL 1-5 = 9619669 Ace Ventura@Fak

7. 9:45

GAL 1-5 # 9619669 Ace Ventura@Fair Gatne 5, 7:30, 10 * Show Girls 10 * Dangerous Minds 5, 7:30 * American President 10 * Seven 4:30, 7:16, 10 * Sudden Death 5, 7:30 HAZAHAV Heat 7, 10 * Cituless@Batmen Forever 4:30 * Get Shorty 5, 7:30, 10 * A Goofy Movie (Hibbrew dialogue) 5 * Casino 6:30, 9:45 RAV CHEN # 9670503 Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 9:25 * Serolet Letter 4:45, 7:15 RAY CHEN # 9670503 Ace Ventura 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Scarlet Letter 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Sense and Sensibility 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 * If Postino 5, 7:30, 9:45 STAR 1-4 # 9619965-7 27 Lishinsky St. Deed Man Walking 7:30, 10 * Lovesick on Nana Street 10 * Mr. Holland's Opus@Sense and Sensibility 7:15, 10 * The Scarlet Letter 7:30 and Sensib Letter 7:30 YEHUD
RAV-CHEN Savyonim Ace Ventura 5,
7:30, 8:45 * Sense and Sensibility 4:30,
7:15, 9:45 * Brave Heart 6, 9:30 * II

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Postino 5, 7:30, 9:45

G.G. GIL Ace Venture 4:30, 7, 9:30 *
Seven@The Usual Suspects 4:30, 7,

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NEWS

Amir defense argues for manslaughter

DEFENSE lawyers for confessed assassin Yigal Amir asked Tel Aviv District Court judges yesterday to convict their client of "attempted manslaughter or manslaughter" instead of mur-

Although Amir streased repeatedly during his testimony that he had planned the murder of Yitzhak Rabin and intended to kill him, defense lawyers Shmuel Fleishman and Gabi Shahar tried to prove in the trial's summation that their elient did not willfully

At one point in the defense summation, Shahar even said that it was possible that a second party was involved in the shooting of Rahin, and that Amir did not fire the shots that killed him.

"It is still a mystery who shnul-ed 'dummy bullets'," said Shahar. "And who left glasses and a watch at the scene?

Defense arguments followed District Attorney representative Penina Guy's summation that Amir had carefully planned Rahin's murder several times. Many

RAINE MARCUS

of her arguments were based on material taped during the questioning of Amir, both by various

police divisions and the GSS. Guy also asked Judgea Edmond Levy, Oded Mudrich and Saviona Rotlevy to adopt the detailed evaluations given by the three psychiatrists who examined Amir in his prison cell and found him to be perfectly sane and aware of his actions. The psychiatrists also said that Amir has a particularly high IQ of nver 140.

"He planned and carried out his deeds in a most rational way," said Guy. She also said she would have

expected Amir to express regret over Rahin's death, which he did not do during any time of the investigation or the trial.

"During his testimonies he did not at any time deny the charges, but used this court to explain his motives," she added.

For the defense, Shahar reiterated that there were no eyewil-

that it was not beyond the bounds of possibility that shots were fired by someone else.

"Amir was arrested while he was standing and not while he was firing the pistol or when he was bent over," said Shahar. "He had additional hullets in his pistol - only three were fired. If he shot the bullets, why didn't he fire the others too?"

He also queried why a GSS agent asked police for Amir's

Lawyer Fleishman argued that Amir intended to paralyze Rabin and not kill him, "to put him and the peace process out of action." and therefore the court should convict him on manslanghter and not murder charges. Fleishman added that there was no criminal intent involved in Amir's deeds. and he is not guilty of premeditat-

Levy did not set a date for the verdict, but hinted that it would be before Pessah. He asked the defense to prepare any possible character witnesses 10 appear the same day, before sentencing.

Jerusalem riot squad head to be indicted for violence

THE head of the Jerusalem Police's riot squad will be indicted for violence toward right-wing demonstrators, the head of the Justice Ministry's criminal division, Nava Ben-Or, has decided.

The Jerusalem District Attorney's Office is now working on preparing the indictment against Chief Supt. Effi Havivian.

The indictment is the result of a complaint filed by a group of Hebron residents who held a small demonstration opposite the po-lice's Russian Compound

hypnosis of Popper.

Court rejects Popper's bid

to introduce hypnosis results

THE Supreme Court has turned down Ami Popper's request to

Popper went on a shooting spree in Rishon Lezion in May 1990 and

At the time, the defense argued that the shooting was a response to

the trauma of having been gang-raped by Arabs eight years earlier, at the age of 13, but the lower court did not accept this argument. The

psychiatrists who evaluated Popper said it was not clear whether the

Yesterday, attorney Zion Amir asked the Supreme Court to accept

two new psychiatric evaluations prepared by experts from abroad via

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rape really happened, but in any case he was not mentally ill.

killed seven Arab workers, for which he received seven life sentences.

introduce new psychiatric evaluations into his appeal.

EVELYN GORDON

headquarters last year. The demonstrators were protesting the police's decision to hold a few dozen Hehron residents at the compound on account of an earli-

Havivian reportedly told the demonstrators to disperse, and when they refused, he began punching and kicking them. Among those allegedly hurt during the incident were a 13-year-old girl and a pregnant woman.

The demonstrators filed a complaint with the Justice Ministry's police investigations division. which found the complaint justified and recommended indicting Havivian. The file was then sent on to Ben-Or, who approved the recommendation and ordered the Jerusalem District Attorney's Office to prepare the indictment.

The demonstrators are demanding that Havivian be suspended unless and until he is eleared in court. So far, however, the police have not decided to do so.

Sarid urged to bar toxic dumping in Haifa Bay

DAVID RUDGE

ENVIRONMENT Minister Yossi Sarid is being urged to stop plans by the Haifa Chemicals factory to discharge toxie waste via a pipeline from the factory directly into Haifa Bay - even if it means elosing down the plant.

Sarid is due tomorrow to visit the factory, which employs 550 people and provides contract work to another 200, to hear how it plans to solve the problem of disposing of its toxic effluent.

If no acceptable solution is found, Sarid could order the factory, which last year exported \$220 million worth of products, to be shut down.

Environmentalists led by Greenpeace and the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI) have been waging an all-

out campaign against the pipeline.
The allegations were categorieally denied by the company which maintains that the pipeline discharge plan would meet the strictest of all environmental regulations in all developed countries, including America.

DAVID RUDGE

Environmentalists protest

\$1b. Haifa seafront plan

launched a campaign yesterday being the biggest "white eleagainst plans for a \$1 hillion mariphant' the country has ever seen. na, hotel and apartment complex project along part of Haifa's Yigal Sela, head of the SPNI's Halfa branch, maintained that no The campaigners, led by the thorough surveys had been con-

ducted on the likely effect of the Society for the Protection of Naproject nn the maritime life and ture in Israel (SPNI) and local residents, elaim the project could the beaches. cause an ecological disaster. The say it also has the potential

Furthermore, there was no evidence that the project would attract thousands of tourists or that people would want to live in

Haifa municipality spokesman Bracha Brill said yesterday that the protesters were not aware of all the facts. Mayor Amram Mitzna is to meet them later this month to present all the details of the scheme, including viability. studies, the way the project has been designed to blend into the

landscape and the effects on the

coast and maritime life. "Investors are queuing up to participate in this project, which they would not do if they did not

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AROUND THE WORLD

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, jack of hearts, eight of diamonds

Sneh: Lying about Ethiopian blood was 'unethical'

HEALTH Minister Ephraim Sneh said yesterday that Magen David Admn's blood services' decision not to tell Ethiopian immigrants that their blood donations would not be used was

for destroying the special moun-

taln-and-coast landscape that

"irregular, unethical, and unfair." Speaking before the Navon Commission on the Ethiopian blood donation affair, Such, whn had not been aware of this policy, said: "Ethiopian immigrants were lain down, a necdle was pushed into their veins and a pint of blood was taken, but they were misled ... This is a good example of how the path to hell may be paved by the best of intentions."

The Health Ministry will soon present new rules in which MDA staff will give potential donors a list of countries at high risk for AIDS and other diseases; anyone who spent some time there or had sexual relations there will be

asked not to donate blood. Until the Navon Commission reaches its conclusions, MDA is freezing blood donated by the Ethiopian community, which has an HIV prevalence 50 times that of the general population.

Questioned on whether Ethiopian blood donations would be used for research, Such said that Israel is a signatory of an international agreement that bars using blood from high-

The way the whole affair was publicized (it was disclosed by a Ma'ariv investigative re-porter who declined the health and absorption ministers' plea to keep it quiet so as not to stigmatize the community) was unfortu-

nate, said Dr. Ronni Shtarkshall, an AIDS education expert at the Hadassah-Hebrew University School of Public Health and Community Medicine. The health authorities are not doing enough to explain the disease to the Ethiopian community, he

Dr. Shlomo Ma'ayan, head of the AIDS clinic at Hadassah-University Hospital, said the rate of HIV infection in the Ethiopian immigrant community is relatively high, and 10 percent of those immigrating in 1995 are HTV carriers, compared with only 3% of those who came in 1993.

Tomorrow the commission, headed by former president Yitzhak Navon, will tour the MDA national blood center at Tel

four Mind

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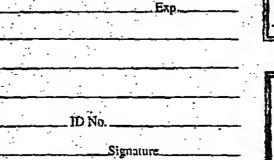


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